

THE LITERARY PANORAMA,

FOR MAY, 1809.

NATIONAL AND PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES.

No. V.

FOURTH REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE OF THE HON. HOUSE OF COMMONS, appointed to examine and consider what Regulations and Checks have been established, in order to controul the several Branches of the PUBLIC EXPENDITURE in Great Britain and Ireland; and how far the same have been effectual; and what further Measures can be adopted for reducing any Part of the said Expenditure, or diminishing the Amount of Salaries and Emoluments, without Detriment to The PUBLIC SERVICE.*

[Ordered to be printed, March 24, 1809.]

COMMISSIONERS FOR DUTCH PRIZES, &c.

Your Committee, having derived from the Minutes of Evidence and Proceedings of the Commissioners on Public Expenditure of the preceding Sessions referred to them by the House, some material information respecting the establishment and the transactions of the Commissioners for the Sale, Management, and Disposal of Dutch Property, captured or detained on the occasion of the commencement of hostilities with Holland, in consequence of its invasion by the French, have pursued the investigation of that subject, and proceed to report upon it.

The Commissioners, who were five in number, were appointed in 1795 under the authority of the 21st clause of the 35th Geo. 3, chapter 80; and their Commission, after reciting in the words of the Act, that "the "Cargoes of Dutch Ships, detained or

"brought in, might perish or be greatly
"injured if some provision was not made
"respecting the same, authorizes the Com-
"missioners to take such Ships and Cargoes
"under their care, and to manage, sell, and
"dispose of the same according to such In-
"structions as they should from time to time
"receive from the King in Council."

The Lords of the Privy Council, in their Instructions dated 13th June 1795, direct the Commissioners generally as to the conduct of their transactions, and require them to keep Minutes of all their Proceedings, and to "keep Accounts in such form as the
"Lords Commissioners of the Treasury shall
"direct or approve." No Instructions appear to have proceeded from the Board of Treasury, and the Commissioners represent themselves to have undertaken their Office, without having come to any understanding with any branch of the Government respecting the manner of deriving their compensation for their services, or the amount of it.

They state, that they were charged with the investigation of numerous claims to British and Neutral Property found in the detained and captured Vessels, and, in many cases, acted in a judicial character in this respect; that they received a separate and Special Commission to take the management of sundry Dutch Vessels brought into Ireland; that they had to make arrangements with the East India Company respecting cargoes directed to be sold by the Company at their own sales; that they had to adjust many complicated accounts with their Agents at the Outports, and to settle the wages of the Officers and Crews both of the vessels of which the cargoes were sold by the East India Company, and of those which were intrusted altogether to their own management, and that they found the duties of their office to be for some time extremely difficult and laborious. They observe however, that their sales ceased and their transactions were nearly brought to a close in July 1799, but that the final adjustment of them had been protracted partly by "small sales of remnants not completed till November 1801," partly by some "property claimed in the Court of Admiralty not adjudged till July 1806," partly by "unsettled accounts with the Executor of the late King's Proctor, of which the balance

* The third Report (with the history of the preceding Reports) will be found in Panorama, Vol. IV. p. 1041, *et seq.* It treats of Pensions—Compensations—Sinecures—Reversions—, and contains a List of Members of House of Commons holding Offices.

was not paid till January last," but chiefly by an important lawsuit commenced in 1797, which brought into question property to the amount of about £180,000. The suit has within these few months terminated in their favour, and the Commissioners now expect that in the course of the ensuing summer they shall close their transactions, and deliver in their accounts to Government.

It appears by a paper dated 29th April 1808, that the gross amount of the produce of the Ships and of the Ships and Cargoes sold (of which Cargoes Your Committee perceive that much the larger part was sold by the East India Company) was

£1,937,064

The Charges were.....	631,239
Commission charged....	88,164
Restitutions to Claimants	69,988
Grants to Captors.....	117,746
	907,137

Leaving a net amount of.....£1,029,927

From which was further to be deducted on account of loss on Ships in debt (that is, on Ships the Charges on which exceeded the Proceeds).....

52,657

Leaving at that time the estimated net Sum of.....£977,269

The chief part of the balance now in hand is invested in Government or other securities, which run at interest. The sum of £900,000 has been paid at sundry periods to Government, and having been carried to the account of the Consolidated Fund, has been applied to the purposes prescribed by Parliament.

Your Committee now proceed to offer some Observations on a variety of points to which their attention has been called, referring to the Appendix for a more detailed account of some of the circumstances which they shall notice.

It has been already mentioned, that no agreement in respect to the mode or amount of remuneration was made at the time when the Commissioners were appointed. The difficulty of ascertaining beforehand the degree of trouble to be incurred, and the nature of the duties to be performed, may form, in some cases, a sufficient motive for suspending the determination of both the amount and manner of an allowance. But no circumstances have appeared which furnish a justification of the delay of no less than 14 years, which in this instance has taken place. It belonged to the Government, after the lapse of a moderate period, to take up the consideration of the remuneration due to the Commissioners, with a view to its being submitted to Parliament; and when the subject had manifestly escaped attention, the Commis-

sioners ought to have given notice of the omission. But they have to this day held no communication with any branch of the Government on this question. Under these circumstances they had, in the judgment of Your Committee, no right to appropriate any sums to themselves as compensation; indeed the terms of their Commission, already quoted, direct them to dispose of the Dutch Property intrusted to them only "according to such Instructions as they should receive from the King in Council," and the Instructions accordingly given, since they merely authorize allowances to crews in payment of wages, do not appear to your Committee in any degree to sanction such application of their funds. The 26th clause of 35 Geo. 3, authorizes the Payment of "the Expences of the Sales out of the Proceeds," but the term "Expences" cannot, in the judgment of Your Committee, be construed to include the Payment of Remuneration to the Commissioners, since neither the mode nor the amount of it had been sanctioned by the Government.

It appears, however, that the Commissioners, at a very early period, proceeded both to determine in the first instance for themselves the Rate of Compensation due, and also actually to apply it to their own use, intending to make mention of this point only on the final settlement of their affairs, though they have from time to time had to communicate with the Secretary of the Treasury on other matters, and have transmitted to the Lords of the Privy Council some general Statements. The Compensation which they have taken has been a commission of 5 per cent. on the gross produce of the Sales; a subject on which Your Committee will offer some further Remarks towards the conclusion of this Report. It has been charged on the principle of a mercantile transaction; but it is here observable, that they have deviated from the custom of Merchants, by taking large sums for Commission before they had either received or paid over the whole net Proceeds of the Cargoes, on the gross produce of which the Commission was charged, and also before they had rendered up their Accounts.

Your Committee deem it necessary to animadvert on the length of time which has been suffered to elapse without rendering any regular Accounts, and without their being called for by the Government.

The chief object of examination in such cases is the detection and rectification of errors, and the recovery of sums improperly withheld from the Public; but when any considerable period has passed, the elucidation of Accounts is rendered difficult, as Your Committee have experienced in the course of

the present investigation, and the recovery of money becomes a measure of harshness. The Commissioner, on whom the Financial Department is said to have devolved, is lately dead: and the want of recollection observable in many parts of the annexed Evidence, is a further exemplification of the inconvenience resulting from the long delay which has taken place.

Your Committee called for a Copy of such Statements of the Transactions of the Commissioners as had from time to time been delivered by them to the Board of Treasury. The chief Paper furnished in return is dated 20th July 1796, being the Copy of a Report presented to the Privy Council, which was evidently furnished rather with a view of shewing the sum then deemed likely to accrue from the Sale of Dutch Property, than of submitting the transactions of the Commissioners to examination. It is observable that although in this Report, which is in a great measure an Estimate, the total amount of the Charges incurred is given, and several particulars composing them are specified, no mention of Commission is made, though it was undoubtedly an Item at that time sufficiently large to have been included in the enumeration; for under this head, the sum of £25,000 had been then divided. This omission might lead to a supposition that no Commission had been taken.

In the case of successive Sales of a similar kind made by Merchants acting as Factors, it is the custom to make up separate account sales of the several cargoes, until the delivery of which the charge of commission is delayed and also to render an annual Account Current, detailing all the Receipts and Payments of the year. If the transactions of the Commissioners are to be considered as of a mercantile nature, the Public ought not to be without the benefit of those checks upon the conduct of their Agents which have been generally established among Merchants.

The Act authorising the appointment of the Commissioners, contains a clause, "requiring" that they shall "cause the Proceeds of their Sales," after "payment of the Duties and the Expences," to be paid "into the Bank of England, there to remain subject to such orders as His Majesty, with the advice of His Privy Council, may from time to time think fit to give thereupon," or as the Court of Admiralty may think fit to give in the case of Sales made under the authority of that Court. Your Committee expected that the Cash of the Commissioners would, in pursuance of this clause, have been kept solely at the Bank, but they find that it was during the first year lodged only with a private Banker; and that five private Bankers have been occasionally employed, each of the Commissioners having recommended that a

temporary account should be opened with the Banker with whom he was individually connected. The clause does not appear to have escaped the attention of the Commissioners; but it is stated in the evidence, that they understood it to apply, not to all the Proceeds of their Sales as they arose, but to the Surplus of the Proceeds above the sums expected by them to be wanted for charges and current payments. They have retained a large balance of cash for these purposes, and they represent that they were obliged to do this, because otherwise an order of His Majesty in Council for a supply of cash, would from time to time have been necessary, the money paid into the Bank under the direction of the Act being no longer subject to the call of the Commissioners. They further state, that being authorized by the 23d clause of the 35 Geo. 3. c. 80. to restore all goods which should be proved to belong to Neutrals, and having sold most of such goods before the decision of the claims, they deemed it necessary to retain cash sufficient for this purpose.

Your Committee nevertheless cannot approve of the construction which the Commissioners have given to the Law. Their payments into the Bank appear to have been large payments made with a view to their immediate transfer from thence into the Exchequer; but the terms used in the Act are, that the Proceeds, after payment of the Duty and expences of Sale, were to be paid into the Bank, "and remain there;" an expression which implies, that the Cash was not merely to pass through the Bank in its way to the Exchequer, but was to be lodged in the Bank as a place of safe custody, in order to await the direction of the Privy Council. The Legislature, however, seems not to have anticipated the circumstance of certain sums being necessary to be withdrawn from the amount of the Proceeds in hand, with a view both to the payment of Charges and to Restitutions of Property due to Neutrals; and, by not providing very specifically or conveniently for these objects, it has afforded some countenance to that interpretation of the Law which has taken place.

Your Committee think, that the difficulty which opposed the adoption of a strict construction of the Act, has been much overstated by the Commissioners. At the commencement of their transactions, having no Money in hand for current Payments, they obtained an Order of Council, directing £25,000 to be advanced to them in order to supply their immediate occasions, which sum was to be replaced by the subsequent Proceeds of Sales. They might afterwards have obtained successive Orders of Council for similar purposes, as well as for the satisfaction of Claimants, without any great inconvenience; and in this case the Lords of the Privy Council

cil would have had the opportunity of exercising their judgment as to the amount of the Money proper to be placed at the disposal of the Commissioners. A less objectionable mode of proceeding, though not conformable to the Act, would have been to keep two Accounts with the Bank; the one, an Account of money paid in under the Act, and consequently subject only to the Orders of the King in Council; the other, a separate Account, subject to the Controul of the Commissioners. This expedient was resorted to after the first twelve months, but there was still no relinquishment of the practice of keeping a large Balance with private Bankers. On the supposition of any uncertainty as to the construction of the Act, the subject ought to have been distinctly submitted to the Lords of the Privy Council in pursuance of their Instructions, which had directed an application to themselves "in all cases of doubt or difficulty."

Your Committee are further of opinion, that if the Act had been silent on this topic, the Commissioners ought to have lodged their Cash in the Bank of England, and with a view to future cases they think that it may be useful to suggest the following general Reasons:

First, The Public have an interest in thus preferring the Bank, which is nearly similar to that which the Commissioners may individually be supposed to have had in favouring their respective Bankers. Indeed, since the Report on the Bank of England, made by the former Committee on Public Expenditure,* in which the Average Amount of the Government Balances in the Bank was stated, that Corporation has consented to make some compensation for benefit of this kind, by affording to the Public the Loan of a considerable Sum without Interest. A general intention of employing the Bank of England as the Banker of the Public, was then professed; and there can be no doubt that every preference shewn to the Bank ought now to be considered as contributing to the liberal fulfilment of the general conditions of that arrangement, and even though not repaid by a specific compensation, as producing some corresponding advantages.

The more safe custody of the Public Money entrusted to the Commissioners, is another motive for lodging it in the Bank. Your Committee conceive, that in the case of any loss arising out of the confidence which the Commissioners have placed in private Banks (an event, in the present high state of credit, admitted to be extremely improbable) the

Commissioners would have been personally responsible.

There is a third reason for this preference of the Bank of England, which is not less important. The Bank makes no allowance of Interest, and shews no species of favour to the Individual who places in it a considerable Balance of Cash. The Public Accountants, who keep Cash in the Bank, are therefore under no temptation to render their Balances unnecessarily large, and are likely not to fail in the punctuality of their payments into the Exchequer.

Your Committee have next to notice the too great magnitude of the Balances of Cash which appear in the Cash-book of the Commissioners, especially during a large part of the two first years, a subject not unconnected with the preceding observations.

The Paper in the Appendix shews the Balance to have been, at the end of October 1795, about £100,000, and to have gradually risen by the end of April 1796, to above £200,000, between which period and the end of May, 1797, it fell to about £160,000. It fluctuated between about 80 and 120,000 during the next four years, and between 50 and 70,000 during almost the whole succeeding period.

Your Committee have learnt by their inspection of the Minute-book of the Commissioners, that on the 25th February 1796, information was asked on the part of Mr. Pitt, whether any and what sum then in hand arising from the disposal of Dutch Property, could be paid into the Exchequer for the service of the current year; and that the Commissioners replied, that no payment of consequence into the Bank according to the Act of Parliament could be made, unless the Treasury should first move the Lords of the Privy Council to direct the India Company to pay a sum (amounting to about £118,000) then due from the Company to the Commissioners.

At the time of this application, the Balance in hand, the amount of which appears not to have been stated to the Treasury, was about £190,000, and it was never so low as £150,000; in the course of the next 15 months, a Balance apparently much more than sufficient to allow of a payment of £50,000 (the sum usually transferred at one time) into the Bank under the Act. The Commissioners state to Your Committee, that demands upon them to the amount of not less than about £260,000, were then outstanding; but this sum must obviously comprize the payments which were to be expected in a long succeeding period, for all the actual payments of the following sixteen months (if a sum of £50,000 paid to Government on the 30th June 1796, and of £40,000, transferred on 31st December 1796 to the Commissioners, on account of Commission, and of

* For this Report see Panorama, Vol. III. p. 673 to 686.—In page 1082 of the same Volume will be found also an account of the loan here alluded to.

about £49,000 paid to Captors, which had been previously received from the East India Company for that purpose within the same period, are excepted) amounted to only about £143,000, according to a statement of the Commissioners. These payments are undoubtedly no exact or very sure criterion of the sum which might fairly be considered on the 25th February 1796, as likely to be wanted. They however furnish a strong presumption on the subject, and the circumstance of the £50,000 just mentioned having been afforded to Government, besides £40,000 to the Commissioners, a few months after the 25th February 1796, without producing a reduction of the balance below £150,000, affords additional reason for thinking that there was no sufficient ground for objecting to make a payment into the Exchequer as desired. It is further observable, that the Commissioners in their Statement on this subject to Your Committee, omit to mention the sums which in February 1796, they might expect to receive. The sums actually received in the first fifteen of the above-mentioned sixteen months, (exclusive of the £49,000, which were both received from the East India Company, and paid over to Captors as already stated) appear by a paper called for by Your Committee, to have been more than equal to the sum paid in the corresponding period, if the before mentioned payments of £50,000 to Government and £40,000. to the Commissioners are included. It is moreover observable, that a sum of from £86,000 to £265,000 (which in conformity to a clause in 35 Geo. 3. ch. 80. was gathering interest at 4 per cent.) lay in the hands of the East India Company from the beginning of March 1796 to March 1798, being the Produce of Sales made by them from time to time on account of the Commissioners, a part of which fund, supposing a proper understanding on this subject to have subsisted between the Commissioners, the Government, and the East India Company, might have been convertible to the purpose of supplying the Commissioners with the means of meeting some of the demands coming unexpectedly upon them. It is therefore on the whole presumable, that at the time of the application in question, a further augmentation of the large balance already in hand, rather than a diminution of it, was reasonably to be expected.

Your Committee cannot contemplate the magnitude of the Balances as they appear in the Cash-Book of the Commissioners, without expressing an opinion, that (supposing it allowable for the Commissioners to adopt that construction of the Act which they have given to it) these Balances ought to have been made productive by investing a very large proportion

of them in Exchequer Bills for the benefit of the Public. Probably not less than between 40 and £50,000. would have accrued in the way of interest from a due attention to economy on the part of the Commissioners in this particular, and the employment of the chief part of their large cash for such a purpose would have constituted a much better apology than has been offered by them for withholding from the Bank the sums which the Act, according to the strict construction of it, required to be paid into it, and would unquestionably have been the most convenient arrangement.

In the year 1799, a sum of £27,000, due to Captors, was turned to this use, which, through the accumulation of interest, amounted to £38,553, at the time when it was paid; and a sum of about £33,000 has been obtained for interest on the balances in the hands of the East India Company.

It has indeed been discovered in the progress of these inquiries, that the Commissioners have availed themselves of the opportunity so obviously afforded them of rendering their balances productive, but that they employed them, during the years which preceded the completion of their sales, entirely with a view to their own emolument. They have invested a part of them in Exchequer Bills, a part in India Bonds, and a small part in the very exceptionable article of Bills of Exchange on private individuals, which they have discounted.

No minute was made of any Resolution of the Board to employ any part of the cash in hand in this manner, and no proof of such employment of it appears among the Receipts and Payments of the Cash-Book; the Balances of which therefore do not exhibit, as they ought to do, the amount of Cash in the hands of the Bank, and of the several Bankers, but include the sum lent out at interest: neither has any trace of the transaction been exhibited in any Account, nor any mention of it been made to Government, except that at about the same time when it was stated to the Committee on Public Expenditure, the Treasury were furnished with a Copy of the Statement. The Committee itself did not at once receive correct or explicit information on this point. It will appear by the Papers and Evidence annexed, that on the 2d March 1807, the Commissioners were directed (nearly in the same terms in which the Heads of other Offices were required to furnish their Returns) to give an "Account of their Establishment and Names, how paid, Salary, Fees, and other Emoluments, and amount of their Receipts on an average of the last three years." The Commissioners stated in their Return, that they had "no Salary, Fees, or Emoluments, they being paid the usual Commission on the sale of the Pro-

"perty placed under their care, out of which they paid Salaries to Clerks, and all other expences of their Establishment;" and they proceeded to say, that "their Sales having ceased from the year 1798, and consequently their Commission also, they expected to be allowed, on the final settlement of their Accounts, a reasonable remuneration for their services since that period." In an examination of one of the Commissioners which took place a week after, he having mentioned that a "Sum had been invested for the benefit of Captors," was thereupon asked, "What was the amount of the sum vested in Public Securities?" and he replied, "about £27,000 for the Captors, and the whole Remainder is invested also in Public Securities, which we shall account for to Government (when we close our Accounts) with Interest."—In an explanatory Paper, delivered to the Committee a fortnight after this examination, the Commissioners, after stating, "that they have taken particular care from time to time not to retain a larger Balance than was necessary to meet the exigencies to which they were liable," add, that "they have invested the greatest part of that Money in Public Securities, with a view of making it productive while it remained in their hands." They then say, that "they consider themselves accountable to Government for the Interest thus accruing." These expressions seem to Your Committee to imply that they considered themselves accountable to Government for whatever Interest they had at any time received by lending the Balances in hand, with the exception only of that portion of Interest for which they had represented themselves as accountable to Captors. They further observe in this explanatory Paper, that "on the other hand, having received no Commission since the year 1799, they conceive that the Services they have since rendered will not be more than adequately compensated by that Interest, &c." But when the Commissioners were specifically required, by a subsequent Order of 9th March 1808, to render "an Account of Interest and Benefit of any kind derived from the possession of any Money which, in virtue of their Commission, may from time to time have remained in their hands, and of which no Account had been rendered to the Treasury," they took a distinction between two considerable sums, received by them for Interest at different periods, the one a sum of about £18,000 (or of about £16,000 according to a subsequently corrected Statement) received for Interest before the completion of their Sales; the other, a sum of about £26,000, received after that period; and they remarked, that "it is for the last of these sums that they have declared themselves ready to account," but that as to

the smaller sum, first received, "they have only kept an account of it as between themselves." They have declared themselves unable to furnish, from their private Papers, all the Information which has been asked respecting the Sum first received, but they confidently remark, that the Profit thus made is not more than the Sum stated.

They endeavour to establish their title to the Sum first received partly by claiming Interest on their Balances as a privilege common to Public Accountants, and partly by observing, that the Sum in question is not equal to certain Sums which they had relinquished, though entitled to them. The chief Sum said to be so relinquished is that part of their Commission which had been applied by them to the payment of the Expences of their Establishment (amounting to about £15,000) from the burthen of supporting which they now claimed a right to be exempt, although, in their original Return, they had professed to charge themselves with it. Another Sum, which they take credit for having relinquished, consists of some Commission which they forbore to charge to Captors, but the reason assigned for this renunciation is one which Your Committee cannot countenance or approve.

Annexed is a Paper transmitted by one of the Commissioners, in explanation of the meaning of the expressions used in their first Return; but, in the judgment of Your Committee, it has not removed the ground of any of the preceding Observations.

Your Committee now proceed to the last point on which it is necessary to dwell, namely, the Amount and Mode of Remuneration which, under all the circumstances of the present case, seem the most proper to be adopted.

The following is the Amount of the Profits which were stated on the 10th February 1809, to have been received by the Commissioners:

Commission at 5 per cent. on the gross Proceeds of their Sales, after paying Charges of their Establishment.....	£74,137
Brokerage	4,346
Interest	36,458

Making together.....£114,941

It was then also stated, that a further sum had been received, or was receivable, for Interest, which would make the Profits of the Commissioners..... 124,785

Subject to a Deduction of..... 1,587

Making 123,198

They have expected for Commission a further sum of about..... 10,000

Making the Total Profits received, and expected, about..... 133,198

Much the larger part of their Commission has been charged on Property sold for them by the East India Company, who, by a clause in 37 Geo. 3. c. 80. were allowed 5 per cent. for their Expence in effecting such Sales.

The Commissioners, in their first Return, have termed a Commission of 5 per cent. on the gross Proceeds of their Sales, "the usual Commission;" but $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the gross Proceeds is the highest Rate common among Merchants, and is the Rate charged by them in the case of goods sold through the medium of the East India Company. The Interest which the Commissioners have derived from the great Balance of Cash in their hands is not warranted by mercantile practice, an exact Interest Account being generally kept between Merchants selling on Commission and their Employers, to whom indeed they frequently make large advances; and a Commission of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. is, therefore, to be considered as in some measure a recompence for that accommodation. It may be further remarked, that the extraordinary magnitude of the Sales of the Commissioners form a reasonable ground for keeping down the Rate of Commission. This principle was urged in the Report of the Committee on Public Offices upon the Bank, with a reference to the allowance made for the Management of the Public Debt, and has been since acted upon; and it no less evidently applies to the present case.

But the grounds on which the Commissioners have preferred their Claim to a Commission of 5 per cent. on the gross Proceeds in their more recent Statements, have chiefly been—a precedent for that Allowance, supposed to have been afforded in the case of a similar Commission issued in the War of 1756,—and the general practice of Prize Agents.

The Commissioners state themselves to have derived their intelligence on the former of these points from a conversation with the late Mr. Aufriere, one of the Commissioners in 1756, but their Information is very imperfect and incorrect; and the Commissioner who gave Evidence before Your Committee, professed not to know whether the Commission was charged on the gross or on the net Amount of the Proceeds of the Sales. It appears by some authentic documents on this subject, of which copies are annexed, that a Commission of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the net Proceeds having been granted, out of which various undefined expences were to be defrayed, the Commissioners represented these expences (which, according to their construction of the term, included Brokerage and various other Charges besides those of their Establishment) to amount to more than their Com-

mission; and that a Commission of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the net Proceeds of Sales, independently of all expences, was consequently substituted. A copy of the Entry in the Account presented to the Treasury by the Auditor, after the termination of the transactions under this Commission, is inserted in the Appendix, by which it appears that the total sum paid for Commission was £14,768. 3s.—It was divided among 14 Commissioners.

The rate of Commission charged by Prize Agents has been fixed by long usage at 5 per cent.; and has lately been applied by the Law to the net Proceeds of Sale, having before been charged on the gross Proceeds. It appears by the evidence, that the excess of the Commission of Prize Agents above that of Merchants is justified chiefly by the peculiar trouble imposed on the Prize Agent in the distribution of the Proceeds of his Sales among the Crews of the capturing Vessels, a trouble from which the Commissioners for the Sale of Dutch Property were exempt. If also the capital employed by the Prize Agent, and the responsibility and risk to which he is subject, are taken into consideration, little disparity between the two charges will be found.

Your Committee will now present an Estimate of the remuneration, to which the Commissioners would be entitled according to each of the three principles which have been mentioned.

First.—If the Commission usual among Merchants of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the gross Proceeds of Sales should be granted, about £50,000 would be the amount of the allowance, out of which the expences of the Establishment (in all about £17,000) would be to be defrayed, leaving about £33,000 clear profit to be divided among the Commissioners.

2dly.—If the principle adopted in 1756, of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the net Proceeds (which may amount to about £1,300,000, or £1,400,000) should be resorted to, a sum of about £32,500 to £35,000 would be receivable, which, the expences of the Establishment being paid, would leave about £15,500 to £18,000 to be divided among the Commissioners.

3dly.—If the Commission should be calculated at the rate which was usual among Prize Agents at the time when the Commissioners began to act, namely, 5 per cent. on the gross Proceeds of Sales, the sum would be about £99,000 subject to a similar deduction, leaving a clear profit of about £82,000.

Your Committee can by no means agree to decide the question according to this principle. The Commission received by Prize Agents at the time when the Commissioners were appointed, has lately been determined to be a more than adequate remuneration for

the whole of their trouble. It should also be recollected, that the Commissioners not only have been exempt from the labour of distributing the Proceeds of their Sales among the individual Sailors concerned in the Captures, and from much other trouble and responsibility, as well as from the advances to which Prize Agents are subject, but are also enabled, by the magnitude of the sum on which their Commission is charged, to transact the Public Business at a much lower rate than is fairly due to individuals receiving ordinary consignments.

On the whole, Your Committee recommend that a Commission of $\text{£}5$ per cent. on the *net* Proceeds of Sales should be allowed to the Commissioners, they paying the charges of their Establishment.

This allowance will probably amount to not less than about $\text{£}30,000$ or $\text{£}10,000$ to each Commissioner, and will be more by about $\text{£}17,000$ than would be due to them according to the usual practice of Merchants, and more by at least about $\text{£}32,000$ than they could claim according to the precedent of 1756, to which they have appealed.

The excess of this Remuneration above that enjoyed by Merchants, as well as above that granted in 1756, may be justified on the ground partly of the more than ordinary trouble imposed on the present Commissioners, and partly by the length of time during which their Commission has necessarily subsisted, and perhaps partly also by the circumstance of Your Committee, in consequence of the omission not only of the Commissioners, but also of the Government, having to recommend a retrospective arrangement. The sum which the Commissioners will have to refund, in case of the adoption of this suggestion, will be not less than between 60 and $\text{£}70,000$. They will also fail to receive nearly $\text{£}20,000$, which they appear to have expected to appropriate to their own use, for further Interest and Commission.

Your Committee cannot allow any weight to the Observation, that two of the Commissioners having, after a term, quitted their professions with a view to the fulfilment of their trust, some reference should be made to this circumstance in estimating the Amount of the Remuneration. No notice of the intended sacrifice was given; and it is obvious, that by proportioning the general compensation receivable by the Body to the special Claims of two Individuals, a more than adequate Reward would be granted to the majority.

If it should be thought fit to adopt the suggestion of Your Committee, the Commissioners ought to be credited in account for

the proposed Commission, and to be debited for all sums applied to their own use, since they have been taken without due authority, the same general principles being observed by the Auditors in the settlement of the concerns of these Commissioners which are usual in similar cases.

Your Committee further suggest, that the Commissioners should be directed to use their utmost diligence to make up and transmit their Accounts to the Lords of His Majesty's Privy Council, with a view to their being submitted to the Board of Treasury, and by them referred to the Auditors.

Your Committee have not pursued their examination of all the topics to which their attention has been called, as will be seen by the Evidence, partly because such investigation might detain them too long from their inquiries into other subjects, and partly on the ground of their not wishing to be considered as exempting the Government from the Duty of applying their attention to the transactions of the Commissioners or the Auditors from the diligent and exact performance of the functions of their important office. The magnitude of the charges on the Vessels and Cargoes sold, which manifests itself in the difference between the gross and the net Proceeds and in the excess of the Charges above the whole Proceeds in the case of many Vessels, appear to demand attention.

Your Committee have had it chiefly in their view to examine and animadvert upon those points which derive importance either from the magnitude of the saving in question, or from their involving some general principles, on which it might be material to insist.

On a review of the whole of the subject which has been before them, they beg leave generally to remark, that to commit pecuniary trusts of extraordinary magnitude to Persons, however respectable as Individuals, and however qualified for their employment by the habits of their former lives, without settling, during a long course of years, the mode or amount of their remuneration,—without providing any material check on their proceedings,—and without reminding them of their responsibility by calling for any regular or periodical account, is a neglect which may be expected often to lead to equally prejudicial consequences, and is a deviation from the acknowledged Duty, and also, as Your Committee trust, from the ordinary practice of Government.

COMMISSIONERS for the Management and Disposal of PORTUGUESE, SPANISH, DANISH, and DUTCH Ships and Cargoes, captured at the commencement of the present War; and COMMISSIONERS for Claims upon AMERICA.

Your Committee annex some information respecting the transactions of the Commissioners for the management and disposal of Portuguese, Spanish, Prussian, Danish and Dutch captured Property; and also respecting the Commissioners employed in the distribution of the sum of £600,000, obtained under the late Convention with the United States of America.

The Commissioners for Portuguese Property have expressed an expectation of being permitted to charge a Commission of 24 per-cent. on the value of the Goods of which they have the management and disposal, and a further Commission of one per-cent. in those cases in which a sale shall have taken place, they paying out of their Commission the charges of their Establishment; and they observe, that they look to no other compensation. They mention, that they have rendered some partial Accounts to the Treasury, and invested a sum in Exchequer Bills, for the interest on which they will account to Government. It appears however by a late communication, that an alteration in respect to this remuneration will take place. The cash of these Commissioners (contrary to the general principle recommended by Your Committee) is lodged with a private Banker.

The Commissioners for Spanish Property have been authorised by the Board of Treasury to receive, exclusive of their expences, one per-cent. on the net Proceeds of Ships and of Goods; $\frac{1}{2}$ per-cent. on specie; $\frac{1}{4}$ per-cent. on Marine Insurances; and $\frac{1}{4}$ per-cent. on the Purchase and Resale of Exchequer Bills. They have accounted for the Interest which they have received, and, having disposed of the Ships and Cargoes committed to their care, have rendered the Account to Government.

The Commissioners for Prussian Property charge a Commission of two per-cent. on the net Proceeds of their Sales, except Bullion, on which only 10s. per-cent. is charged, exclusive of "moderate and reasonable expences;" they have invested their balance in Exchequer Bills; the Interest on which is to be accounted for to Government.

The Commissioners for Danish Property charge a Commission of 24 per-cent. on the net Proceeds of Ships and Cargoes, besides one per-cent. on remittances of Proceeds from abroad; $\frac{1}{4}$ per-cent. on Insurances; and $\frac{1}{4}$ per-cent. on the Purchase and Sale of Exche-

quer Bills; and they have no other emoluments.

The Commissioners for Dutch Property captured at the commencement of the present war, charge a Commission of 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per-cent. on the net Proceeds of their Sales, which is exclusive of all expences.

The Commissioners for the settlement of American Claims received, when in America, £1,500. per annum each, besides a sum of £5,000 granted to the principal Commissioner as a compensation, in consideration of which he was induced to leave his profession.

The remuneration for their services in England is reserved for consideration.

Your Committee are confirmed by the preceding Statement, in the judgment which they have already delivered respecting the remuneration which may be reasonable in the case of the Commissioners appointed in 1795, for the management and disposal of Dutch Property.

The several Commissioners appointed since the commencement of the present War, for the disposal of captured property, have derived their authority from Letters addressed to the King's Proctor and have been directed to deliver to the Registry of the Court of Admiralty, Statements of the Sale and Proceeds of each Ship and Cargo sold by them, in the same manner as Prize Agents. These Statements, forming a part of the Records of the Registry of the Court, are open to the inspection of all persons having an interest therein; and in the event of any application from such parties are subject to the revision and controul of the Court, in the same manner as the Statements of Prize Agents. The Commissioners have also been required to transmit to the Treasury, Cash Accounts, as soon as they can be made up, and vouchers, in order to examination. They are exempt from judicial duties. Your Committee are of opinion, that through the means which have been mentioned, considerable security for the due performance of these trusts is afforded both to individual Claimants and to the Public.

We make no remarks on this Report: the sentiments expressed by the Committee are those of enlightened minds, and men of business. The public is under essential obligations to them; and the applause of their fellow citizens will attend them. We cannot, therefore, but respectfully await their examination of the further objects, which they have in charge; the honour of our nation, the welfare of the public, and the future conduct of national affairs in the most satisfactory manner, are all in their hands.—We understand that the names of the Commissioners are James Crawford, John Brickwood, Allen Chatfield, John Bowles, and Alexander Baxter, Esquires.

A Grammar of the Sanskrita Language, by Charles Wilkins, LL.D. F. R. S. Price £4. 4s. 4to. pp. 656. Printed for the Author, and sold by Black, Parry and Kingsbury, London, 1808.

THE philosophy of language has attracted the attention of the learned ever since the revival of letters in Europe; and the various modes by which the tongue is rendered interpreter to the thoughts have been brought into comparison with each other, in order to discover, if possible, the whole extent of its powers, and to trace the origin and progress of speech from the first dawn of intercourse and civilization to the supposed standard of its perfection. The introduction, by an almost sudden discovery, of a new, yet cultivated and scientific language, among these points of comparison, must necessarily constitute an important epoch in literature. For, if such a language be found to partake of the common principles and properties which characterize all other classical and finished dialects of antiquity, it will, of course, contribute essentially to determine the precise limitations of the mind in the science of expression. Such a discovery may either confirm or confute the opinion, that one and the same original idiom was the common parent of all which have since existed.

Wisdom is almost proverbially derived from the East; and the artificial refinements by which social life is benefited or adorned, have gradually travelled westward. Yet the labours of the modern grammarians and critics of Europe have been almost exclusively devoted to the acquisition and elucidation of the languages of Greece and Rome: and the ideal standard which they have formed and recommended, of excellence in composition, is derived from works still extant in those languages. Occasionally, indeed, a few men of deep research have bent their thoughts to the Hebrew; to the Arabic, or to the Persian; with little other view than the pursuit of dry etymology; and the lamented and excellent orientalist, Sir W. Jones, exhibits almost a solitary instance of genius and taste applied to the study of Eastern authors; unbiassed by acquired predilection for their European rivals.

This general indifference of our literati to the learned and beautiful writings of Asia is attributable to the want of an Asiatic turn of mind: to an inaptitude for the splendid imagery, the vivid descriptions, and figurative representations, universally predominant in the East. These, to our cooler conceptions, appear forced, turgid and preposterous. But, true criticism should embrace excellence of every species; and should consider nothing as unworthy of notice, which has attracted the admiration, and secured the applause of the most capable judges among the most polished nations of the world.

It is, at least, certain, that philology, as a science, must continue defective, while any of the sources of well constructed language remain unexplored. The endeavours of the learned and indefatigable compiler of the Sanskrita Grammar to remove this defect, have conferred a most essential, and extensive obligation on literature. His work, though evidently a summary transcript of numerous treatises by original Hindoo grammarians, is distinguished by the originality of the matter; it has also peculiar merit in the precision of its arrangements, and in the clearness of its precepts. The well known talents of the author require no eulogium from us. The public has long acknowledged obligations to them. It is not therefore, our intention to enlarge on the claims of the writer to the patronage of the judicious, but merely to offer some account of the characteristic nature of the performance.

At first sight, a grammar of nearly 700 quarto pages, has somewhat of a startling, and even formidable appearance; but when it is considered that we have no Dictionary, or other work whatever, yet published, in this language, the necessity for accompanying such a performance in its progress with a kind of running nomenclator, is self evident. It consists of eleven chapters; of which, the two first, on the written elements and orthography of the language, are undoubtedly the most curious. In these, the true principles for the construction of an alphabet are more elaborately detailed, and more successfully practised, than has ever been attempted elsewhere. It is quite a phenomenon, to find a set of letters, in which not one has either an *ambiguous* or a *double* sound: and which are capa-

ble of adaptation to almost every different language, with the same facility and accuracy as to that for which they were originally designed. Moreover, this elementary precision has one very extraordinary advantage; inasmuch as it greatly obviates the possibility of false spelling. Whoever has once made himself master of the alphabet, has obtained all that is necessary for reading and writing; and the period passed by European children in learning to spell, may be engaged in other and better purposes. Every thing in this alphabet is new, original, and instructive. It is the only instance where the vowels and consonants form separate classes; and where the order of the letters is evidently that of nature, commencing with the simplest possible emission of sound, and gradually proceeding through the whole diapason of vocables; afterwards taking the several organs of speech in a regular series, beginning with the throat, from thence to the palate; next to the bell, or hollow of the skull itself; and lastly to letters of a mixt character; called by this scientific author semi-vowels. From each of these organs, in its turn, are drawn such sounds as belong exclusively to the functions of each; and these are given, both simply, and accompanied with an aspirate.

The distinctions of the letters into two classes, *surd*s and *sonant*s, for which we are indebted to Mr. Wilkins's ingenuity, is a curious instance of minute research into the natural principles of enunciation; for, in fact, the hard consonant, denominated *surd*, cannot possibly be uttered without a vowel; and the incipient effort necessarily gives the soft sound, or constitutes the *sonant* of the same organ.

From the consideration of the Alphabet we are led to the rudiments of grammar; in which all languages are much alike; but here, as in every other respect, the Sanskrita idiom exhibits its characteristic multiplicity of distinctions. Much may be said too in favour of the opinion, that whatever dialects be selected for comparison with it, the Sanskrita contains every thing extant in the other, while it also possesses something additionally and exclusively its own. Thus, if we compare the Sanskrita with the Greek, we find among the verbs of the latter a sort of anomalous form, with a reduplication

of the first consonant, and a termination in *μ*. This is the most common and natural form of a Sanskrita verb; consequently, the language in which this mode is adventitious and accidental can hardly be free from the suspicion of having borrowed it from that in which this form is common and natural. Yet we know well, that Greek has no pretensions to originality; and equally well that in Sanskrita, nothing can be deduced from a foreign derivation.

From the prodigious number of Sanskrita grammars still extant (upwards of a hundred) and the voluminous bulk of each, it may be very plausibly inferred, that this language has strong if not undeniable pretensions to the origin of grammatical science itself. For every part of the subject is so perfectly explored and explained, and the whole is stated on so enlarged a scale, that the orthographical and orthoepical rules of all the other idioms with which we are acquainted, have very much the air of being selections, or abridgements from this comprehensive mass. And this gives some plausibility to the opinion that the grammarians of the rest of the world had contented themselves with extracting and appropriating the rudiments and principles they found already prepared for them in the documents which treated on this extensive dialect. Grammar, for instance, is founded upon written speech; but the art of analyzing and delineating sounds, of reducing a monosyllable to its component elements in the different organs of utterance, and then fixing the value of each by a specific picture, mark, or written character, is lost in the unfathomable ocean of time. Hence the best Sanskrita philosophers consider the grammar of their own tongue as having obtained at some remote period, an excellence and even a perfection, through the unwearied efforts of their *Dévat*as or spiritual existences, far surpassing its present state, and of which all their own merely human labours have been able to collect and preserve nothing more than a few scanty portions. Hence, also, impressed with a deep conviction of the wonderful importance of alphabetical writing, they have, in all their works, directed their severest and most scrupulous attention to the principles of orthography, and to the determination of all those scarcely

perceptible gradations by which a consonant of one order glides into, and is assimilated with, its cognate consonant of another order; or, by a still smaller variation of the organic energy, from hard becomes soft, and *vice versâ*; or assumes, or relinquishes, an aspirate.

These remarks open a wide field of dissertation on the origin and progress of language, a subjection which we might offer a very different hypothesis from that of the late acute but whimsical Monboddo. Our limits forbid such an undertaking. It is enough for our present purpose, that we acknowledge our acquiescence in the opinion that the ancient prophet and patriarch Enoch actually wrote a book. To this opinion our own Sacred Scriptures are evidently favourable; but the inevitable consequence deduced from this admission, is the existence of written language at that early period. Again, as we place entire confidence in the Mosaic account of the Deluge, we know not how to deny, that a very considerable, perhaps the major part, of the arts and sciences of the antediluvian world, perished in that universal catastrophe, or its consequences. To that world, and to the supposed state of learning while it flourished, we conceive the Sanskrita grammarians allude, in the humiliating comparisons by which they describe the inferiority of their own attainments. But, declining to proceed further in this very extensive enquiry, we have to call the reader's attention to the extraordinary minuteness and diligence, with which the precise position and combination of the alphabetical elements are every where inculcated. Three fourths, at least, of the truly ingenious and elaborate work before us, are occupied in providing rules for the due commutation, combination, collision, and elision of separate letters, according to the circumstances under which they come in contact, and the organs to which they respectively belong. Now, when we observe that this multiplicity of rules, and congeries of instances, are condensed in our common Latin Grammars, into the few pages of hexameters, which comprise the "*As in presenti*," and to a still smaller space in the Greek grammar, we think it evident that the Sanskrita masters copied from no models known to us; and, as they affirm from no previous models,

whatever. They also deny, with every appearance of truth, to have discord assistance from collateral sources, as in the instances, quoted those languages might have done. For this, indeed, they would have been prepared by the habitual use of written communications for so many ages, which would have modified this part of the science to their hands: whereas the Sanskrita grammarians, and masters of the art, sought directly from nature and their own talent of investigation, the primordial principles of that system which they studied and inculcated.

The second part of Sanskrita grammar, which in other languages comprises almost the whole, consists in the due distribution of words into their several classes, in the inflexions of those words, and their relative position for the right construction of a sentence. The extent of our author's knowledge in this branch, the acuteness of his researches, and the accuracy of his classification, are manifest from the table of contents, prefixed to his work, in which the most experienced philologist will with difficulty find omissions, and the severest critic corrections. This branch being necessarily common to all *well composed* (i. e. SANSKRITA, such being the meaning of the word) languages, we need only direct the reader's attention to it, to satisfy him that it contains every requisite for correctness, elegance, and energy of style; yet combined with differences so strongly marked, as effectually to vindicate its claim to originality and antiquity. In the cases to nouns it abounds, beyond all the languages with which we ourselves pretend acquaintance; and in its numbers it rivals the Greek and Hebrew. Its verbs may boast the full quota of tenses applicable to the variability of time in its three grand divisions; together with several forms of the verb peculiar to itself; each indicating a different modification of the original meaning designated by the simple word.

The basis of the language, like that of the Hebrew, Arabic, &c. consists of a certain number of primordial roots. For the construction, selection, and appropriation of these, considered as mere inactive representations of ideas, we can allege no satisfactory reasons of preference; nor are we disposed too lightly to concede, that these Sanskrita roots have any pretensions to rival, much less to surpass, the

simplicity, the utility, and the elegance of the triliteral rudiments of Arabic and Hebrew ; which, with *Ravis* of neglected memory, we deem the perfection of etymology.

The Sanskrita verbs, indeed, seem to be chargeable with a falling short of oriental precision, by the want of a feminine termination : we doubt whether in practice this be a real defect ; but, at least, it prove that Sanskritagrammarians, who usually err by redundancy, did not borrow from the languages in which this termination is now found. Were we writing an essay, instead of a review, we should naturally advert to the very important resemblances between words in this language and words in other languages. The Latin furnishes a great number ; Greek, from which Latin, originally, was but a scion, supplies very many more. But Greek itself is a derivative from some previous oriental tongue : we mean that of Noah and his immediate posterity. This the most expert etymologists allow ; and, indeed, it is proved, by the history of the first colonization of Greece, and might be demonstrated by an analysis of the etymology of proper names in Homer. A celebrated living writer has very forcibly drawn the public attention toward the long disused literary remains of the Celts and Goths ; and we are persuaded, from such little experience on this subject as has fallen to our lot, that these also would furnish numerous instances of verbal similarity with the Sanskrita. The Malay language is said to be most copiously sprinkled with Sanskrita words ; and there are some, though perhaps not many, in Persian and Arabic : nor have the few Chinese terms, which we have incidentally gleaned from authors who have mentioned or quoted them from that language, failed to supply an instance. In fact, we deem it a most remarkable coincidence in grammatical research, that the Jesuit Foumont, in attempting to deduce an alphabetical arrangement of the Chinese language from its own sources, actually brings out the order and structure of the Sanskrita alphabet.

That the science of grammar was in its infancy, when this idiom assumed and fixed its peculiar texture, is clearly proved by the constant practice among the best authors of blending together a number of words in *regimine*, all in the absolute, or

undeclined, form, with a single sign of inflection to terminate the whole series. Is this an excellence ? or, must we deem it a defect ? Many modern idioms, and particularly our own, contain nothing but indeclinable nouns, whose relative office in a sentence can only be ascertained by their position ; but then the verb almost always intervenes between the agent and the subject, and the auxiliary members of the period are distinguished by prepositions. In this Indian dialect we have whole lines composed of mere nouns, without any diacritical mark whatsoever, to distinguish the governing from the governed, or the principal from the subordinate. Whatever be the beauty or merit of this arrangement in the eyes of its native professors,—precision, we must confess, is but too often sacrificed to its attainment. This is also, on some occasions, a more serious evil ; for, in treatises of religion and morality encouragement is hereby given to ambiguity of meaning, or to contrariety of interpretation ; in a code of national law, it must, by its very nature, afford too ready occasion for fluctuating, and what is infinitely worse, for corrupt decisions. But that in poetry it contributes to the sublimity of expression, and the expansion of imagery, we can easily admit ; and that it conveys much pleasurable sensation to those, who by education are familiarised to its use, may fairly be deduced from its universality. Still, as a pregnant instance of the very wildest mode of expression, common even to savages in every part of the world, incorporated into a language of the most scientific and otherwise most elegant structure, we deem it an unanswerable evidence of the prodigious antiquity of the Sanskrita, and not less of the ingenuity and contrivance of its earliest cultivators.

Notwithstanding this general commendation of his labour, we must be permitted to observe, that Mr. Wilkins has not *spoken to the eye*, by such an analysis of the formation of Sanskrita letters as reduces them to their most simple elements. The first thing that strikes an observer, on inspecting a sentence of Sanskrita writing, is, that all the letters forming a word are united at the top by a line passing along them. Now, to us, this seems to be neither more nor less than a retention of the line originally ruled in order to pre-

serve regularity among them ; and if this line were abstracted, when analysis of form is in question, we presume that the real character of the letter would remain unimpaired. Those additional marks, also, or after-thought branches, which command the prolongation of sound on the vowels, should have been distinguished, for the benefit of the inquirer into the rudiments of the language ; together with whatever variations in form the letters assume when peculiarly placed ; as finals, &c. These should have been, in a few examples, *cast hollow* ; as the Author has seen in Parkhurst's Hebrew Dictionary : The curious, as a still further distinction, sometimes colour them with vermilion, whereby the eye catches at a glance the marked peculiarities which the student is in search of. We have some suspicion, too, that were these appendices removed, several of the letters would, either reversed or direct, furnish points of similarity to those of some of the alphabets used in the west, which at present are absolutely concealed. Mr. W. knows very well, that our present Greek characters are not unchanged descendants from those of the early ages. Now if the alphabets which remain, and have fallen within our cognizance, of the ancient Pelasgi, Hetruscans, &c. should be found allied in *form*, and especially if allied both in *form* and *power*, to the Sanskrita letters, the inference would be extremely favourable to his opinions ; and this discovery would, in fact, become a new chapter in the history of the human race.

We are convinced that the *Deities* of Western Asia, and of Europe connected with it, are the *Dévatās* of India ; and that the religious rites of these countries were derived from the same source ; it is therefore a very plausible conjecture, that the writings, in which those rites were enjoined and described, should be transcripts from Indian originals, in the written character of those originals ; though afterwards, from a variety of causes, these characters gradually changed their forms. When Pliny derives the art of writing *from the Gods*, when he tells us, that *letters had always existed in Assyria*,* he

* We may be allowed to place a conjecture in a note, which possibly may be thought not sufficiently well founded to appear in the text. We would ask, whether the *Assyria* of Pliny, and of Virgil, Eclogue IV.

does no more than repeat the information, which by some means he had derived from Sanskrita authority. It would be very desirable, therefore, to afford every facility in the examination of this hypothesis ; and *something* is gained in the article of comparison, when the letters of any two ancient alphabets are divested of their artificial accoutrements, and reduced to a state of nature :—we had almost said, to their original *nudity*.

The mode of writing practiced at this day, in India, especially in the South, is by impressing an iron style on a leaf of the palm tree : this, penetrating the outer coat or epidermis of the leaf, leaves a lasting mark. But, from the consideration of the plates before us, we are led to suspect that this was not the primitive mode of writing. The varying *breadths* of the letters, (in some places they are very broad and bold ; in others they are narrow and fine) together with the *sweeping* forms of some of their parts, suggest to our minds, the idea of characters made by means of the camel's hair pencil, or some such instrument : and this is at present the customary method of writing among the Chinese. However this might be, *originally*, which now can be only supposed, we are happy to acknowledge our obligations to the author for several very neatly executed plates, explaining the manner of forming these characters, with their shapes, when initial and when final, when compounded,

..... ASSYRIUM vulgo nascetur Amonum.

may not have been compounded from two original words *Ai* 𑂔, the country, district, region, of *Sīra* or *Sūrya*, the Hindoo Deity, the God of Day, the Sun ? In plain English, “ the Land of the Rising Sun,” which, to those who travelled westward, would mark the easterly quarter of the heavens, the land of their nativity, of their forefathers, and of their earliest and fondest prejudices. *Ai Syr* is the Bible name of the same country : it is the *Scira* of Hesychius : the *Syriad* or *Syriadice* of Manetho, in Eusebius and Syncellus. If we examine this very passage of Pliny more strictly, we shall find it not unfavourable to this conjecture : he says “ others think letters were always extant *apud Syros* :” not the *Syrians*, or the *Assyrians*, as commonly understood, but the *Sūrya-ans* : i. e. those who worshipped the Deity *Sūrya* : or those who inhabited the country where the Deity *Sūrya* was understood to reside.

(sometimes three or four together) with other peculiarities. This is a valuable part of his work. The whole of his volume, indeed, is very creditably executed: it manifests much patience, as well as skill. A few errors in so long a work may be pardoned: we wonder their number is not greater.

It may be proper to hint, that although this is the first Sanskrita grammar which has been printed in England, yet it is not the first which has been published in Europe. We suppose that character is due to the "Sidharubam seu Gramatica Samscrdamica, cui accedit Dissertatio historico-critica in linguam Samscrdamicam vulgo Samscreet dictam, &c. Auctore Paulino a S. Bartholomæo, Carmelita exalceato Malabaricæ Missionario. Romæ 1790. From that grammar Mr. Wilkins has borrowed nothing; nor perhaps should we have referred to it, but for our hope, that, as that was printed by the Congregation de Propaganda Fide, so the learned performance on which we have been reporting, may be a mean, in its turn, of contributing to the propagation of the true faith, by furnishing opportunities for our more intimate acquaintance with the learning, antiquities, and religion of India. For this, it is in our opinion well calculated; not less by the extent of research and copiousness of selection of the author, than by the discernment, application and talent manifest in its execution. We cordially recommend it to all who aspire to the title of Indian Literati.

Suggestions for the Prevention of the Yellow Fever, &c. By Stewart Henderson, M. D. District Staff Surgeon. 8vo pp. 114. Price 5s. Stockdale, Jun. London. 1808.

We have abridged the title of this tract; for to say truth, it has more the air of quackery than becomes the good sense of its author.

We are persuaded that Dr. H. communicates the result of his personal observation, with the best intentions: and we wish to enforce the necessity of attending to some of his remarks, with all our power.

The exercise of common sense must convince any man who would impartially attend to it, that in a climate constantly heated by the almost perpendicular beams of the sun, the addition of ardent spirits

received into the stomach in considerable quantities *must* be injurious. Nature has placed in such regions, many kinds of fruits of cooling juices, limes, lemons, &c, as correctives; but man must needs employ his faculties, in procuring, by a process foreign to the purposes of nature, the means of self-destruction. New rum, new brandy, destroy more of our warriors in one year, than the enemy does in seven years. When will our troops be convinced of this fact, and learn so much temperance as to spurn at the deadly draught? Our author states this fact with great emphasis, and it cannot be too strongly or too often repeated. He also recommends a free air, salt-water bathing, a proper allowance of vegetables as part of diet, and a separation of the sick, not merely from the healthy, but from each other. For this purpose he suggests the plan of an hospital: which we should rejoice to believe the exigencies of service would allow to be constantly adopted. We have nevertheless, much satisfaction in being able to bear our testimony to the greater attention paid to the health and comfort of our brave defenders, in late years, than was practised formerly. Too much cannot be done for those on service, who venture their lives for their country.

Dr. H. considers distinctly the remittent or marsh fever; the intermittent, the yellow fever, the dysentery, and some other diseases to which troops are exposed. We do not observe any striking peculiarities in his system. But the hints which are incidentally dropt by him, are entitled to attention. He says of the yellow fever, that "men are more susceptible of it than children"; and that "among the multitude of black men and women whom he has had occasion to see employed constantly in the hospitals, and who have executed all the menial duties about the sick, the dying and the dead, *I never knew even a single instance of either male or female taking the disease!*" Hence the Dr. infers that this fever is not infectious. We do not advise any of our readers to trust this inference.

We agree that it would be highly desirable to prepare all our troops for the climate of the West-Indies by degrees: and besides what use has heretofore been made of Gibraltar as a station for that purpose, we think that greater advantage might be taken of the Island of Madeira, with the

same intention. We hope this hint will not be lost.

Our author speaks in very favourable terms of the climate and accommodations of the Cape of Good Hope: his remarks as a medical man, come in aid of those which have been suggested by politicians on the importance of this colony.

Travellers who have visited this part of Africa for the purpose of investigating the natural history of the country, speak with rapture of the salubrity of its air and natural productions. I think it will be found, upon inquiry, to merit the most favourable opinion. The face of the country, for a considerable distance (except the land which forms the Cape) is rather low; but open, and well cultivated, of a sandy and marly soil, which soon absorbs the rain, thereby preventing the noxious exhalations, so productive of sickness in hot climates. The air, except a few months, may be called temperate; the atmosphere is seldom loaded with moisture, but possesses a degree of elasticity not often felt in any other country; and although Fahrenheit's thermometer, during the summer months,* ranges from 80 to 90, and frequently a considerable variation is suddenly experienced; yet from the dryness of the atmospheric air, and a brisk circulation of it being kept up by the prevailing south-east winds, the constitution suffers little from relaxation. Invalids from India, labouring under complaints of debility, the effect of great heat, soon recover their strength here, by the temperate and bracing air of the winter months; and a further proof of its salubrity, are the florid and healthy looks we perceive in the Dutch inhabitants, especially those who live in the country, and are not enervated by luxury and indolence; though it is remarked that there are not many instances of longevity among them, owing in a great measure to their habits and manners of life, yet they are happily exempt from many of those endemic and epidemic diseases which rage in other parts of the world, and annually carry off great numbers. The small pox, measles, remittent, and intermittent fever, and that most fatal of all diseases, the jail, hospital, or ship fever, which destroys so many of the human species in every part of Europe, are never generated here, and are unknown, but when introduced; which, unfortunately for the natives, has sometimes happened. We likewise find, that neither the inhabitants or officers are attacked with the diseases which prevail among the soldiers; and it is a singular circumstance that not an officer of the

army or navy has died of disease contracted here, since the British forces arrived at the Cape (during a period of three years) which I think clearly proves that no noxious quality exists in the air of this country, which has been by some imagined, and erroneously blamed, as the cause of the malignity of the disorders, and the many deaths that have occurred in the General Hospital. We must therefore look for other causes than those assigned.

The natural productions for the use of man perhaps exceed in variety most parts of the world. At that season of the year when great heat prevails, nature has made ample provisions to lessen its influence on the human body, by the abundance of sweet acid fruits (European and Tropical) of which instinct and our reason dictate the use.

Upon the whole, considering its situation, climate and natural productions, so far from being deemed unhealthy, it may more properly, in my opinion, be styled the Montpellier of the southern hemisphere.

The diseases which prevail among the soldiers are: fever, dysentery and ulcers. The principal causes seem to be the unlimited and immoderate use of ardent spirits, want of proper diet, clothing and bedding.

There is, no doubt, in the human body, a constant tendency to putrescency; more especially in a hot climate, producing various morbid appearances; and this tendency will be increased in proportion to the nature and quality of our food. Men using much animal food, without a due proportion of vegetables, soon contract diseases of a putrid nature; and when assisted by that powerful agent, and destructive poison, new brandy, which the soldiers have so much access to, cannot fail to produce such changes, both in the solids and fluids, as to aggravate those diseases which, from other causes, have incidentally come on.

In a constitution thus previously prepared, it is easy to conceive, that the smallest scratch or wound will degenerate into an ulcer; and if seized with fever or dysentery, the worst termination may be expected.

I therefore consider the immoderate use of ardent spirits to be the great leading cause not only of disease, but those frequent punishments which have proved fatal to many of the soldiers, from the bad state of their constitutions, and foul air of the hospitals. In my printed letter already mentioned, I gave an instance of what happened in the southern province of India, when there was no arrack for the troops in camp. The sick considerably decreased, although the fatigue of duty was great, and the season unfavourable; but a few days after receiving a supply of that liquor from Calicut, the sick-list again returned to its usual standard.

* November, December, January, and February.

Anecdotes of Literature and scarce Books ; by the Rev. William Beloe, Translator of Herodotus, &c. Vol. III. 8vo. pp. 412. Price 9s.—Rivingtons ; London, 1808.

WE had great pleasure in perusing, and bringing the public acquainted with, the two former volumes of this work ; but we have not found the present volume so interesting in itself, nor so well calculated to amuse, and convey information to, readers in general. *The collectors of scarce books* will certainly reap some advantage from Mr. Beloe's labours ; but as he is chiefly beholden to Mattaire, to Panzer, to Audiffredi, to Laire, to Renouard, to Meerman, de Bure, Dibdin, &c. and as their works, together with many catalogues of celebrated libraries, are already in the hands of the curious who are *scholars* ; we much doubt whether he might not have spared himself a considerable part of his pains.—If he had favoured us with descriptions of such books as he had *himself* examined, or discovered in the various libraries to which he has had access, we should have considered ourselves under no small obligation to him ; but we feel no such sensation, for accounts of books given on the authority of works open to our inspection as well as his.—We say this with undiminished respect for Mr. Beloe. He expresses an apprehension (Pref. p. xiv.) that “to common readers this present volume may not be particularly interesting. There are some things in it, he trusts, that may be generally entertaining ; but he is aware, that the bibliographer and curious collector may be best satisfied with this, which is the precursor of two more for which he has prepared materials.” We are convinced, however, that unless he draws more from his own stores, and unless he confines himself to the notice of such books as he has met with in his own person ; he will save bibliographers and collectors very little trouble.—We like his bill of fare for the next two volumes very well ; particularly the articles which we express in *Italics*. Without pledging himself to “any specific arrangement,” Mr. B. says his materials prepared are—“An account of some of the Greek books printed at Venice and at Rome, by Callivergus. The first books printed at Paris, by Ægidius Gormontius.

VOL. VI. [*Lit. Pan. May, 1809*]

Greek books by Colinæus. Books printed at Eton college. Books printed under the patronage of Leo X. *Miscellaneous anecdotes of early printed books. Early English literature. Old English poetry. French Literature. General miscellaneous anecdotes.*”

We hope we shall find, in the promised volumes, anecdotes *indeed* ;—*things not hitherto published* ; for that is the meaning of the word.

Mr. Beloe has been permitted to look into several distinguished libraries ; particularly those of Earl Spencer and the Bishop of Ely, (late of Rochester,) Bishop Dampier ; and we feel happy, as Englishmen, that in their lordships' possession, and in the King's library, and in Mr. Cracherode's collection, now in the British Museum, is deposited such a treasure of scarce books ; comprising so many specimens of early typography. In certain instances Mr. B. urges the propriety of collating those ancient copies. In several of them he has discovered various readings of importance. For this sort of information he deserves the thanks of all learned men.

The contents of this vol. are as follows : “Account of the earlier Bibles. Novum Testamentum. German Bibles, Polish Bibles. Olivetan Bible. Edward the Sixth's Catechism. Miscellaneous Biblical. Theological. Tindal. Polyglot Psalter. New Testament in Latin Hexameters. God's Plea for Ninevah. Erastus Senior. Guide to Grand Jurymen. Chrysomeson. Wedding Sermons. Life of Joane of the Crosse. Alexandrian Manuscript. Wilson's Bible. The Primer. Hymns and Songs of the Church. Godly and spiritual songs. Martin Mar-Prélate. Martin's Month's Minde. Two notable Sermons. Jon Bon. Greek Books from 1476 to 1500. Greek Books by Aldus before 1500. Greek Books by Aldus without date. Early Editions of Virgil. Early Printers. John Mentelin. Ulric Zel. George Laver. Sweynheim and Pannartz. Bishop of Aleria. Pomponius Lætus. Rare books of the 15th century. Greek Books in capital letters. Rare editions of Latin Poets of the 15th century. Latin Translations of the Greek Poets.”

Our readers will naturally suppose that these subjects are not all treated of at equal length. On some we find a good

deal of discussion; what is said on others is very meagre. Thus, for instance, under the head "Alexandrian manuscript," we only find what follows;

Ten copies only of the Alexandrian manuscript of the Greek testament in the British Museum were printed upon vellum. They were subscribed for by the following individuals:

His Majesty, Duke of Grafton, Lord Sandys, Mr. Peachy, Mr. Burrell, Rev. Mr. Cracherode, Rev. Mr. Rose, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Nicolls (Qr. Nicol), Rev. Dr. Lort.

Dr. Lort's copy was purchased by the Bishop of Rochester. Mr. Jackson's copy was sold by auction at Leigh and Sotheby's rooms. Of this Jackson see some account in my former volumes.

The next article, on "Wilson's Bible," is of the same kind. "Ten large paper copies were printed of it, and of those two were imperfect." There are only six entire lines in p. 116, where this important information is recorded.

In pp. 18, 19, mention is made of the Polish Bible, printed "*Curâ et sumptibus Nicolai Radzivili, Palatini Vilmensis*," 1563; and Mr. B. says, "he is informed that the famous text I, John 5, 7, is to be found in it; from whence it is to be inferred, that the Vulgate was the original from whence the version was made." "It was entirely superintended by the leaders of the Socinians, among whom was the celebrated Michael Servetus."—We do not subscribe to Mr. B.'s inference; particularly as the Bible in question is described to have been published "*à Socinians ex Hebraicis et Græcis Fontibus*." We think it will be somewhat difficult to prove, that Servetus, the Spaniard, once an advocate at Toulouse, then a graduated doctor of physic in the university of Paris, settled at Vienne in Dauphiny as a physician, and afterwards burnt at Geneva, on his way to Naples, where he meant to practice in the medical faculty, had any share in *superintending* the Polish Bible.—It is a curious circumstance that the controverted text should appear in this Bible. The *Frates Polonici* have not determined on its being an interpolation, as some later divines, (rashly enough, we think,) have pronounced it to be.

P. 22. Edward the Sixth's catechism.

Mr. B. inclines to give the drawing up of this catechism to the learned Alex. Newell, dean of St. Paul's; and we think

he judges rightly. We expect very soon to see this point settled by Mr. Archdeacon Churton, whose life of Dean Nowell (which we take this opportunity of announcing) is in a state of forwardness for publication. It will contain an unpublished portrait of that great protestant divine, engraved after a picture in the possession of Dr. Sherson, whose mother was a Nowell.

Pp. 49, 50, 51. Thordinary of Crysten Men. By Wynken de Worde.

There are two editions of this book, both printed by Wynken de Worde; one in 1502, the other in 1506. Both are ornamented with wooden cuts, but these are totally different in the two editions; though I believe the contents of the two editions are the same.

This book is minutely described by Herbert; but, as he has given no extract, the following concise one may be acceptable:

"Here foloweth the ten paynes of the partye of the body that these dampned suffre in hell (and every of them devysed in foure) and so they ben forty paynes.

The first is fyre ryght cruelly brennynges,

The second is colde so moche frysnyng,

The thyrd grete cryes of dolour without ceasyng,

The fourth smoke the whiche may not in hell be lefte,

The fyth odour and stynkyng moche horryble,

The syxte vysyon of devylles terribyle,

The seventh hungre tourmentyng cruelly,

The evghth thyrste the whiche tormenteth in lyke wyse,

The nynth grete shame and confusyon.

The tenth in all his membres afflyceyon.

The firste payne is of fyre brennynges, of the whiche it is to understande, that notwithstandinge that the fyre of hell is a thyng corporall (and of the same nature as is that of this worlde), how be it they differ in foure thynges. The firste is in sharpnes of hete, for it is more hote than is oures, of as moche as oures is more hote than that the whiche is paynted on a wall, after as sayth saint Austyn the whiche is none other thyng to understand, but that we be not suffycent for to imagine the excesse of the fyre of hell in regarde and comparyson of oures. Of the which evermore we have soo merveyllous experyens, that there is noo metall nor other thyng but that it melieth, brenneth or alreth, and therefore esmerveyll the tourment of the fyre of hell what it may be. The second dyfference of the fyre of hell and of oures is as unto the hardenes for oures is in beyng lesseth and consumeth his mater, but that of hell is eternall and never lesseth. For fot

ever her mater shall endure. That is to understande the body and the soule of dampned synners them holdeth alwayes in the one maner. Thyrdely they differre in lyght, for how be it that that of hell is grete and brennyng ever more yet it yeldeth no lyght, the whiche is only thyng pleasaunte, *but all the syght, and lyght the whiche is in hell, it is for to torment greuously these that ben dampned.* Fourthly they differre, for it conserveth in beyng the thyng that it brenneth and boyleth to chaunge into ashes, or in to other nature. By these foure thynges appereth, that none understandinge is sufficyent to comprehend the horybyltye of suche tourment.

Here in the words printed in Italics we see the source of Milton's "darkness visible, which served but to discover sights of woe, &c."

Many typographical errors deform this volume—"omnia vivi!" "Silius Atticus!" &c.

We remark a mistake, into which Mr. B. has fallen, in p. 272. Sweynheim and Pannartz, the celebrated Roman printers, who first, indeed, carried the art of printing to Italy, were in great distress at Rome. They were in want of the common necessities of life. They caused an epistle to be addressed to the Pope in which they are made to say—"Ingens sumptus ad victum necessarius, cessantibus emtoribus, ferri amplius à nobis nequit. Et ementes non esse, ullum est gravius testimonium, quam quod domus nostra, satis magna, plena est *quinternionum*, inanis verum necessarium." Says Mr. B. "The reader will observe that the expression here used for sheets is *quinternions*, which proves that they did not divide their paper as we do."—In our judgment the word means no such thing; but simply this, that their house was full of large volumes. The letter printed at the bottom of the first page of a sheet, by way of signature, fixing the order of the sheets for the information of the binder, was not marked, as now, A, and then, after going through the alphabet and on commencing a second, 2 A; but first A, then AA, then AAA, *terniones* as they are called in the direction to the binder; then the letters are put four times, *quaterniones*; then even five times, *quinterniones*. The term *quinterniones* refers not to the mode of folding the sheets, but to the signatures—the re-publication of signatures which they bore.

Titi Lucretii Cari de rerum primordia natura, Libri vi. cum argumentis.

Veronæ, excudebat Paulus Fridenperger. Anno 1486. Folio.

De Bure and others calls this the first edition of Lucretius, which it is not. But it is exceedingly scarce and curious. The Colophon has often exercised the sagacity of bibliographers.

"Paulus hunc impressit Fridenperger in Verona, qui genitus est in Patavia alæ magnæ ab incarnatione Christi mccccclxxxvi. die vigesimo octavo Septembris Calen. Octobris."

Ala magna is by Maittaire interpreted to mean *Alemania*, that is Germany, who also considers *Patavia* to signify *Passaw*; but what the twenty-eighth day of September the calends of October can imply, is far beyond my comprehension.

De Bure from Maittaire assigns very erroneously the superintendence of this edition to Hieronymus Avantium. Hieronymus Avantium corrected the edition, by Aldus, of 1500.

There are copies of this edition in Lord Spencer's collection, at the British Museum (Cracherode's), and with the Bishop of Rochester.

The text of this edition is remarkably incorrect."

We have here only to remark, that the 28th day of September is *one of the calends of October*, being the 4th of the calends of the latter month.

The titles of many early printed books are now only to be found in the *Colophons* subjoined. By a late act of parliament, printers are obliged to insert their name and place of abode on the first and the last leaf of the books they send from their presses. It were an excellent thing, for the sake of posterity, to add, at least, *an abbreviated title* of each book in the way of an ancient Colophon.

This third volume is dedicated to his grace the archbishop of Canterbury; and Mr. Beloe in the conclusion of his preface, thus remarks:

I conclude this preface, as I did the former, with entreating those who may possess literary rarities, or who may chance to know where such things are deposited, to oblige me with the loan of them, or to inform me where I may have access to them.

I reserve the additions and corrections to the conclusion of the fifth volume, and they will be accompanied by a general Index to the whole work.

The Flowers at Court, by Mrs. Reeve.

pp. 30. Price 2s. 6d. 12mo. For the Author. C. and R. Baldwin, London. 1809.

Mrs. Reeve tells us, that the composing of this little poem "relieved her from some hours of languor and sickness;" and we venture to say, that it will afford amusement to her readers. It is not a performance to be tried by the laws of criticism; but the poesy critic of our corps (who, by-the-bye, has passed the heyday of life) was observed by his brethren to look rather *glum*, when he found that the Myrtle was appointed Poet-Laureat to Flora, instead of the Laurel.

Our readers may judge for themselves, from a specimen of this trifle.

Lady *Hyacinth's* family came with the rest,
And in pink, blue, and white, they were tastefully drest.

Painted Ladies in plenty were seen 'midst the crowd,
Attended by *Corcombs* who laugh'd and talk'd loud.

But the Earl and the Countess of *Jasmine* advance,
And their presence excites curiosity's glance:
Green and *yellow* he wore at his lady's desire;
Whilst a robe, chiefly white, form'd her bridal attire;

She look'd such a graceful and elegant creature,
All said for a *star* she was destin'd by nature.

Lord *Mushroom* was next, tho' of pert upstart race,
For he thought that his title secur'd him a place;
Bending down to the ground, in a bow to excel,
He begg'd to present his relation *Morel*.

The Miss *Primroses* came from Papa's country seat;
They were pretty, tho' pale, and their dresses were neat.

Sir John *Cowslip*, a worthy old neighbour and friend,
To the ladies had promis'd protection to lend;
Their beau met with attention, tho' not very fine,
For the party all knew he gave excellent wine.
The *Buglosses* left their old walls to be there,
But they seem'd in the scene no great pleasure to share;

Very little indeed of the fashions they knew,
For their turbans were pink, and their petticoats blue.

The Wedding among the Flowers. By one of the Authors of original Poems, Rhymes for the Nursery, &c. pp. 16. Price 1s. Darton and Harvey, London, 1808.

It would be a thing unheard of, that so gay an assembly as that of the Flowers at Court should have had no effect in

disposing the hearts of the blooming belles, and youthful beaux, to reciprocal attachment; and we find, on consulting the gazettes of the time, that many a heart was lost, many a gentle sigh was heaved, many a vow was breathed, and many a glance was shot, by the conquerors as well as by the conquered, though some had the art to conceal their feelings more effectually than others. Some, it appears, were withheld by family pride, others by party spirit, others by what they called prudential (misprinted, we believe, for *prudish*) reasons: but,

At length my Lord *Sunflower*, whom public opinion,

Confess'd as the pride of the blooming dominion,
Avow'd an affection he'd often betray'd,

For sweet Lady *Lily*, the queen of the shade;
And said, should her friends nor the public withstand,

He would dare to solicit her elegant hand.

Now April was dimpled with smiles, and the day

Was fix'd for the first of luxuriant May:

Along the parterre, in the shade or the sun;

All was bus'ness, and bustle, and frolic, and fun;
For, as Flora had granted a full dispensation

To ev'ry gay tribe in her blooming creation,

By which at the festival all might appear,

Who else were on duty but parts of the year,

There was now such a concourse of beauty and grace,

As had not, since Eden, appear'd in one place;

And cards were dispers'd, with consent of the fair,
To ev'ry great family through the parterre.

There was one city lady, indeed, that the bride
Did not wish to attend, which was Miss *London*

Pride;

And his lordship declar'd he would rather not meet

So doubtful a person as young *Bitter Sweet*.

Sir *Michaelmas Daisy* was ask'd to appear,

But was gone out of town for best part of the year.

And though he was sent for, *Narcissus* declin'd

Out of pique, and prefer'd to keep sulking behind;

For, having beheld his fine form in the water,

He thought himself equal to any flow'r's daughter;

And would not consent to increase a parade,

The hero of which he himself should have made.

Dr. *Camomile* was to have been one of the party,

But was summon'd to town, to old Alderman Hearty.

Old *Aloe*, a worthy, respectable don,

Could not go in the clothes that just then he had on,

And his tailor was such a slow fellow, he guess'd

That it might be a century 'ere he was dress'd.

Excuses were sent, too; from very near all

The ladies residing at Great Green House Hall,

Who had been so confin'd, were so chilly and spare,

It might cost them their lives to be out in the air. The *Sensitive Plant* hop'd her friend would excuse her,

It thrill'd ev'ry nerve in her frame to refuse her, But she did not believe she had courage to view The solemn transaction she'd summon'd her to. *Widow Wail* had a ticket, but would not attend, For fear her low spirits should sadden her friend ; And, too wild to regard either lady or lord, *Honey-suckle*, as usual, was gadding abroad.

Notwithstanding all which, preparations were made,

In the very first style, for the splendid parade.

One *Cloth-Plant*, a clothier of settled repute, Undertook to provide ev'ry beau with a suit, Trimm'd with *Bachelor's Buttons*, but these, I presume,

Were rejected as out of the proper costume.

Miss *Satin Flow'r*, fancy-dress maker from town, Had silks of all colours and patterns come down ; And long *Ladies Ribbon* could hardly prepare Her trimmings so fast as bespoke by the fair. Two noted perfumers, from Shrubbery Lane, Messrs. *Musk-Rose* and *Lavender*, essenc'd the train ;

And 'ere the damp weather of April expir'd, The whole blooming band was completely attir'd.

For further particulars we must refer to this authentic report. We could have been glad to have seen, had mortal eyes been permitted the sight, the hymeneal parade, the tables, and the banquet. We perceive that, to the spectator, the knowledge of the company, their rank, orders, and classes, was, as usual, indispensable : but this must be acquired from the Court Kalendar, for no doubt it has been settled by Garter, Lyon, or Norroy, King at Arms.

A Poetical Picture of America, being Observations made, during a Residence of several Years, at Alexandria, and Norfolk, in Virginia ; illustrative of the Manners and Customs of the Inhabitants. By a Lady. 8vo. pp. 177. Price 6s. London. Vernor, Hood and Sharpe, 1809.

THE reader must have seen many a portrait which though little indebted to the skill of the artist yet struck the eye as being a likeness. Its colouring was not brilliant ; its demi-tints were neither true nor tender, glazings it had none ; yet it appeared to be drawn from the life, and pos-

sessed a *character* which marked an original. Poetry not seldom presents a similar performance : and we need not go beyond this volume in search of an instance. The descriptions are natural, although the verses can boast of little melody and less refinement. The personages are correct, though we cannot say that of the rhymes ; and as to inspiration by Apollo or the Muses, the good Christian writer bids defiance to such heathen deities, with all their powers.

Charity alone would induce us to call this poem *poetry* ; yet there is in it a pleasant vein of information, the result of personal experience, we doubt not ; and as the pretensions of the Authoress are modest, we shall not critically examine them. The preface comprizes the moral.

The recital in the following pages contains a narrative of domestic occurrences, and may be useful to those who have occasion to cross the Atlantic ; it may also serve as a check to many, who, dissatisfied with their lot here, imagine that change of place will ensure happiness and procure wealth : experience teaches wisdom ; and many a discontented wanderer finds, too late, that he has sacrificed real liberty to an imaginary idol ; and that labour is every where necessary to obtain subsistence. The Americans will perhaps say that I have chosen to describe the worst part of the United States ; but the Virginians must acknowledge the truth of every assertion. I relate only what I saw ; and have confined my descriptions to the places where I long resided.

A visit from the Catawbow Indians may be quite as pleasant to our female readers, *in verse*, as if they themselves had participated in the fright of the fair Authoress, who thus describes it.

During this season there came down
Some Indians, from a distant town,
Who through that place were making progress,
On business to the sitting congress :
They chose to rest upon their way,
And linger there a night and day :
Roving about in hopes to spy
Things that might please their envious eye.
All o'er the town they caus'd amaze ;
People did little else but gaze,
Watching these strangers as they went,
Anxious to know for what intent,
They to the congress were applying,
Or what new treaty ratifying ;
When, with my husband in his store*,
I, like the rest, was gaping o'er
The curious tribe, and, all amaz'd,
Intently on their features gaz'd ;

* The same as shop.

Not thinking they would look on me,
 Guess then how frighten'd I must be,
 When suddenly they turn'd around,
 And through our door-way entrance found:
 My changing colour told my fright,
 I try'd to hide me from their sight;
 For fierce the aspect that they bore;
 Dirty the coverings which they wore;
 Their skin appear'd their clothes between,
 And naked all one shoulder seen;
 Across which hung a monstrous bow,
 The tomahawk was slung below;
 Within their belts some arrows stood,
 With knives, suppos'd to cut their food:
 Their looks were dark, austere their eye,
 They made a sign I should not fly;
 And try'd to make my husband see,
 They meant no injury to me;
 Yet though at his command I staid,
 My trembling said I was afraid;
 When he who seem'd the chief of these,
 Thinking he would my fears appease,
 His hand upon my necklace lay'd,
 Then touch'd the feather on my head,
 Trying to make me understand
 He wanted them within his hand:
 My necklace quickly off I tore,
 And gave the feather I had wore;
 He seem'd delighted, danc'd and sung,
 The others disappointed, hung
 Their heads, with anger in their eyes,
 As if they would dispute his prize;
 My husband try'd their rage to lower,
 By giving trifles from the store;
 One chose a knife, and seem'd to try
 Its sharpness with a sparkling eye;
 The next a pair of scissors took,
 Pleas'd with the brightness of their look:
 A long steel watch-chain charm'd the last,
 On it an anxious look he cast,
 Eager to have it did appear,
 And quickly hung it on his ear.
 Still not content, with jealous eyes
 Again they view'd their chieftain's prize,
 My feather, plac'd upon his hair,
 My necklace, dangling from his ear,
 Was by them all so much admir'd,
 That they by signs again desir'd
 I'd give each man a feather too,
 Then quietly away they'd go;
 So I was forc'd to fetch some more,
 That we might get this visit o'er:
 Tho' with my feathers loth to part,
 And very angry in my heart,
 I gave them in this awkward cause,
 To rid me of the Catawbaws*.
 Who all the day grotesque appear'd,
 With my tall feathers highly rear'd,
 Encircled with a cock-tail crown,
 Of red and yellow, black and brown.

* Indians residing between North and South Carolina.

Can we deny that the principle of personal decoration is natural to man? when we see how strongly it predominates in such simple sons of Nature. We may call it luxury if we will; but whether it be a want or a weakness, all mankind are subject to it; the rude no less than the refined. As ladies do not often publish their travels, in poetry especially, we are seldom gratified with a bill of fare, and prices of meat, &c. equal to that of this good housewife: those who mean to visit America, may consult it with advantage. We shall add her description of the customs attendant on marriages and funerals.

The rooms were dress'd with flow'rets gay,
 The company in best array,
 Converse, and pass the time away,
 Till Sol withdraws his brilliant ray;
 When entering the drawing-room,
 The parson shews the hour* is come;
 The parents then fetch in the bride,
 The bridegroom walking by her side,
 Attended by the bride-maids fair,
 And bridegrooms-men, in all three pair.
 One would suppose this preparation,
 Led to a solemn celebration;
 The matrimonial form well said,
 With serious tone devoutly read:
 But no such thing, tho' they confess,
 And protestants themselves profess,
 Yet at the revolution made
 No law by which the clergy† pray'd
 That when they christen or they marry,
 They never on the service tarry;
 The ceremony soon is o'er,
 The preacher saying little more,
 Than you take John and John take thee,
 I give my blessing heartily.
 The contract o'er, the company
 Wish the young couple health and joy;
 Then all unite in cheerful mirth,
 The laugh, the dance, the song, goes forth;
 Till late th' evening hours advance,
 When they all quit the song and dance,
 Ent'ring the supper-room to eat
 Some of a light refreshing treat;
 The table elegantly spread,
 With the young couple at the head;
 Where chickens, oysters, tarts, and fruit,
 With cakes and syllabubs to suit;
 Confections, trifles, floating cream,
 All there in high perfection seem,
 Well frosted o'er; in fact they show
 A table cover'd with sweet snow.
 Th' effect is pleasing to the sight,
 Bright sparkling with the glare of light;

* Generally eight in the evening.

† The clergy in Virginia are allowed great liberty in performing any part of the church service.

The bridegroom's men and bridesmaids wait
 Upon the company in state;
 Who, when retiring, wish repose,
 And ev'ry good the world bestows.
 But true enough it's often said,
 The brightest prospects soonest fade:
 So was it with this blushing bride,
 For ere the year was o'er she died.
 Here we, with David, may compare,
 And say, that youth is transient fair;
 That like a flow'r at morning's light,
 Blushes at noon, is dead at night,
 So fleeting is the loveliest bloom,
 Early condemn'd to fill the tomb.
 The house so late with flow'rets dress'd
 When flatt'ring love became the guest,
 Now ev'ry part with white * was hung,
 O'er all the glasses linen flung;
 With all the outward marks of woe.
 On ev'ry box and chest they throw
 Sheets, table-cloths, whate'er is white,
 To hide the furniture from sight.
 In the best room, on table high,
 The dead within their coffin* lie,
 Dress'd in the clothes they us'd to wear,
 No woollen shroud is needful there.
 Three days, the longest time they save
 The mould'ring relics from the grave;
 And during Sol's autumnal pow'rs,
 The grave is clos'd in thirty hours.
 No outward ornament appears,
 No gilded plate the coffin bears;
 Th' initials of the name put on,
 The day on which they died upon
 With small brass nails, also the year,
 Is the remembrance usual there.
 Two silken cords and tassels bound
 Twice loosely o'er the coffin round;
 If young and single were the dead,
 White are the cords and tassels spread:
 If lately married, black and white;
 If aged, black they think is right,
 A stand is near the coffin's head,
 Cover'd with white, and on it spread
 A pillow, and a pray'r book there,
 Against their preacher should appear.
 For there the sermon is prepar'd,
 And in the house with reverence heard;
 It is expected ev'ry friend
 And every neighbour should attend,
 A compliment that few neglect,
 It being meant to show respect.
 Their fav'rite text while I was there,
 And general sermon, was from Blair;
 The one, where speaking of man's doom,
 He says, "Man's gone to his long home;
 "The mourners who at present meet,
 "Will soon be walking in the street,

* The same is done whether the person is single or married.

* Every thing is covered with white but the coffin.

"And when the coffin's no more seen,
 "Forget that such a one had been,"
 That literally was the case,
 Of those who died within that place.
 The sermon o'er, all done their part,
 The corpse plac'd safely in the cart;
 For its more like a cart than hearse;
 Their mode of drawing it is worse;
 One shabby horse, who scarce can crawl,
 Conveys the dead, without a pall,
 Quite open to the public eye,
 Where the deceas'd is meant to lie.
 Sometimes they're in the church-yard laid,
 Sometimes in their own garden's shade,
 Just where the burial-place remains,
 Which their old ancestors contains,
 And those who have no vault, must lay
 In Potter's-field their senseless clay.

A Biographical Index to the present House of Lords. Corrected to October, 1808. By the Author of the "Political Index to the House of Commons," to which work this volume is intended as a companion. Price 12s. 12mo. pp. 676. Goddard. London.

We cannot choose a better specimen of this Index than by selecting the history of the house of Bridgewater, to which England has been so much indebted for the introduction of those extensive canals which have proved such a source of riches to the country. It will at once evince the nature of the work, as well as remind our readers of that illustrious family.

EARL OF BRIDGEWATER.

NAME, TITLES, AND CREATIONS.

The Right Honourable John William Egerton, Earl of Bridgewater, in the county of Somerset (May 17, 1617), Viscount Brackley, in the county of Northampton (Nov. 7, 1616), and Baron Ellesmere, of Ellesmere, in the county of Salop (July 17, 1603).

Motto:—*Sic, donec. So, until.*

In this motto much more perhaps is meant than meets the ear. It is intended as a perpetual admonition to all successive generations of this family, down to the latest posterity, that they are to be noble, and shall continue so, until the Virtue which first raised them to Nobility forsakes them; that Fortune will attend them only while accompanied with Virtue; and, that they are to continue Great, only so long as they are good.

DESCENT.

This is one of the old genuine original families of England, descended, according to Camden, from Robert, Baron of Malpas, in the reign of William the Conqueror; whose son, Robert, as appears from Doomsday Book,

held in Cestrescire, and other parts, thirty-two different manors, or lordships. Robert dying without male issue, Lætitia, his only daughter, and sole heir, married John Le Belward de Malpas, in the reign of William Rufus. His son and heir, William, married Beatrix, daughter of Hugh, Earl of Chester, and sister of Ranulph, Earl of Chester; and, by her, left issue, three sons, David, Robert, and, Richard: from which three sons are descended all the families of Egerton, and all the several families of Cholmondeley. David, Baron of Malpas, was justice of Chester, and, High Sheriff of the County of Chester, in 1248, 36 Hen. III. He had two sons; William, Baron of Malpas, who left no legitimate issue, and Phillip, High Sheriff of Cheshire, in the reign of Edward the 1st. who being possessed of the manor of Egerton, in the county of Chester, took, according to the custom of that age the surname of Egerton, from the place of his residence; which said manor, and estate, of Egerton, has remained in possession of the Egerton family, until this day.

ANECDOTES OF THIS HOUSE.

Thomas Egerton, Lord Ellesmere, was constituted Lord Keeper, by Queen Elizabeth, and Lord Chancellor, by King James the 1st. No Person has yet held the Seals for so long a period as he did, namely, from the 6th of May, 1596, to the 3d of March, 1617. And, at the same time with the Seals, he also held the Mastership of the Rolls, till the 18th of May, 1603.

According to the accurate Camden, on the 3d of March, 1617, "The King went to visit the Chancellor, who from age and infirmity, was desirous of resigning the Great Seal, and received it from his hands with tears of gratitude, and respect." His Majesty further sent, by Mr. Secretary Winwood, this gracious message, "That He Himself would be his deputy, and continue so, until Ellesmere no longer lived to bear the title of Chancellor."

In his time happened the important question about Equitable Jurisdiction, between him, and Lord Chief Justice Coke. The chief point in controversy between them was, *Whether the Chancery can relieve, by Subpœna, after a judgment at law, in the same matter.* Two indictments were preferred against the Lord Chancellor Egerton; and his lordship was threatened with a Premunire in the Star-Chamber. "This matter," says Sir William Blackstone, in his Commentaries, Book III. Chap. IV. "being brought before the King, was, by him referred to his Learned Counsel, for their advice, and opinion: who reported so strongly in favour of the Courts of Equity, that His Majesty gave judgement in their behalf: but not contented with the irrefragable Reasons,

"and Precedents, produced by his Counsel (for the Chief Justice was clearly in the wrong) he chose rather to decide the question by referring it to the plenitude of his Royal Prerogative." And thus the Jurisdiction of Equity, as well after, as before, judgment at law, has ever since, been continually exercised without effectual controversy, or interruption.

Some of Ld. Chancellor Egerton's speeches, and writings, are still extant.

There are several pictures of the Lord Chancellor, at the Duke of Bridgewater's, the Earl of Stamford's, the Duke of Dorset's, &c: And also many different prints of him, by Hole, Simon Pass, Richardson, Thane, Trotter, Bond, and Sylvester Harding.

John Egerton, third Earl of Bridgewater, heartily joined in the Revolution, and became a member of the Privy Council, in the reign of William and Mary. During his life, Bridgewater-house, in Barbican, was destroyed (April 1687) by fire, and two of his sons were burned to death. Scroop, the eldest surviving son, was created a Duke. Of this nobleman, there is a portrait, by Kneller: and two prints; one, by Blooteling, and another, by J. Smith.

Scroop Egerton, Earl of Bridgewater, is a very hopeful young gentleman, hath been abroad, is married to a daughter of the Duke of Marlborough: not twenty-five years old." *Mackey's Secret Memoirs*, p. 109.

This Countess of Bridgewater, who was third daughter, and co-heir, to John the Great Duke of Marlborough, appears to have been, not only one of the most celebrated beauties of the court, but also, one of the most virtuous, the most amiable, and the most regretted of women.

—Beauty waking all her forms, supplies
An Angel's sweetness, or Bridgewater's Eyes.
Muse! at that name thy sacred sorrows shed;
Those tears eternal, that embalm the Dead:
Call round her tomb each object of desire,
Each purer frame inform'd with purer fire:
Bid her be all that charms or softens life,
The tender Sister, Daughter, Friend, and Wife:
Bid her be all that makes mankind adore,
Then view this marble, and be vain no more!

Pope's Epistle to Jervas, v. 46, & seq.

And again, in the 75th line of the same Epistle.

With Zeuxis' Helen thy Bridgewater vie.

To this great, and illustrious, House of Bridgewater, the United Kingdom is indebted for having first conceived, and executed, the plan of Inland Navigation, by the system of canals.

Scroop, Duke of Bridgewater, who died in 1744-5, obtained, in the year 1732, 10th Geo. II. "An Act for making a Navigable Canal from Worsley to Manchester."

Francis, his fifth son, upon the death of his four elder brothers, became Duke of Bridgewater; and, as the law of England enabled him to cut off the entail of the immense family estates, which, thus, he inherited, he obtained the additional advantage of having it in his power to raise large sums upon the security of these ancient hereditary estates: With these means, he expended several hundreds of thousands of pounds sterling, in extending and executing the system of Inland Navigation. He not only continued, and perfected, the Canal which was originally conceived by his father; but, he yet further continued the line of Navigable Canal, which bears his name, so as, ultimately, to effect a junction with other projected canals, and, thereby, to open to this commercial country, a cheap, easy, and secure, communication, by water, between the ports of London, Liverpool, Bristol, and Hull; and by his example, and success, he taught the Nation to pursue that plan, and system of Inland Navigation, which is now so generally, and so advantageously, extended throughout the United Kingdoms.

THE PRESENT PEER,

Born in 1753, is the eldest surviving son of the late John Egerton, Bishop of Durham, by his first wife, Anne Sophia, daughter of Henry Grey, Duke of Kent. Early in life, he had a commission in the 7th Light Dragoons; was promoted a Major-general in 1795, and a Lieutenant-General in 1802. In June, 1797, he was made Colonel of the 11th, or Duchess of York's own, regiment of Light Dragoons; and, on the decease of Francis, third and last Duke of Bridgewater, in 1803, without issue, he became the 7th Earl.

While a commoner (John William Egerton, Esq.), he was returned for the borough of Brackley in 1780;* but in 1783, was absent during the memorable debate on Mr. Fox's East India bill.

In 1788-9, being then Colonel Egerton, he divided with Mr. Pitt, in respect to the Prince of Wales's claims to the Regency.

On the trial of Viscount Melville, the Earl voted him "Not guilty" on all the charges.

He is Steward of the lands appertaining to the Duchy of Lancaster, in the county of Herts.

The Earl of Bridgewater, who has become a great agriculturist and breeder, &c. in 1783, married Miss Haynes, an heiress.

His portrait, by Edridge, was exhibited at the Royal Academy, in 1807.

His present Majesty, as appears by the Gazette, published by authority, 22d January,

* He was re-elected in 1784, 1790, 1796, 1801, and 1806, until he became Earl on the demise of his uncle.

1808, taking into his royal consideration, the Earl's descent, through his father, from the Princess Mary, Queen Dowager of France, younger Daughter of Hen. VII. by Elizabeth, his queen; and also his several descents, all likewise mixed with heirship, through his mother, from Hen. III. Edward I. and Edward III. was pleased to grant, under his Royal Sign Manual, by a writ, which recites all the above descents, that Francis Henry, only younger brother, and Amelia, only sister of the above earl, should enjoy the same titles, place, &c. as if their father had lived to succeed to the Earldom of Bridgewater.

Country Seat—Ashridge, Hertfordshire.

Town House—Grosvenor Square.

Perlege si Vis. A Letter addressed to the Right Reverend Spencer, Lord Bishop of Peterborough, in Answer to an Appeal made to the "Society for defending the Civil Rights of the Dissenters," relative to the important Question of Church Burial by the Established Clergy, &c. By John Wight Wickes, M. A. Rector of Wardley cum Belton, Rutland. Price 2s. pp. 50. Drakard, Stamford, 1808.

WE give no opinion on the merits of the cause, to which the world is obliged for this publication: we are equally strangers to both parties: but, we have two purposes in view, in noticing it. The first is, to predict, that a minister of the Gospel who rests his cause solely on human enactments and canon laws (of which few can judge) in opposition to the injunctions of Gospel authority, (of which in this land of Bibles and Testaments, most can judge)—we mean meekness, self-denial, condescension to the weakness of others, &c.—will see the Dissenting interest, which he hates, flourish in spite of him. He himself is pulling down the church, and building up the conventicle. Secondly, we desire to be furnished with a proper term for the *modesty* of that clergyman who could address such uncandid language, with such calumnious insinuations, &c. as the following, to his diocesan.

John Swingler's was not the only conventicle in the parish. Mr. William Kemp, junior, by a family connection with some of the faithful, cemented moreover by an happy union with a female of the spiritualized, open a second shop of sanctity, *gratuitously*, in opposition to the pie-nic subscription house of poor Johnny Swingler. The chances

were in favour of the former, and the flock of the new man increased most wonderfully. Males that had transgressed, and those that wished to transgress, mixed in rapturous concord with females that had sinned, and females that wished to sin. Strengthened by the all insinuating gestures of his brother Thomas, servant to his uncle, and of sonorous squeaking excellence, he continued the good work without ceasing. A rivalry soon commenced between these loving brothers of the same qualifications. The struggle for pre-eminence in the tub of humility, was compromised by a partnership in trade: so that William and Thomas, or Thomas and William alternately acted as preachers and readers to their illuminated audience, who very ungratefully told tales of love out of school.

Nor did this rapturous spirit of sanctity stop here. The fair sex likewise received the puff of inspiration, and hoisted the banners of the new birth over the thatch of her humble dwelling. The celebrated Mrs. Fawkes, the quiet rib of Jerry Lapstone, the sole-mender of Belton, kept her occasional *love feasts* and *creeping nights*, (these I understand are technical, but sublime terms of this sect,) and astonished the more profane multitude by her sudden conversion from a former life of suspicious purity, by adding herself to the number of saints.

When so incautious and rude a shepherd shears his flock, they will think he cuts them to the bone; and they will run away from him, on the first opportunity.

Lettres et Pensées du Maréchal Prince de Ligne, publiées par Madame la Baronne de Staël Holstein. Letters and Thoughts of Marshal Prince de Ligne, published by the Baroness de Staël Holstein. 2. vols. in 8vo. Price 10s. Dulau & Co. London, 1809.

THE name of the fair editor, which graces the title page of this publication, might, alone, afford a strong presumption in its favour; for in this mode of literary adoption, the judgment of a writer of her high reputation, and discernment, cannot be biassed by those parental feelings, which too often are the prolific source of self-delusion. Indeed, some over-cautious critics, knowing the lady's extraordinary turn of mind, her romantic democracy, her subtle metaphysics, and her *perfectibility of melancholy*,* might

* Mad. de Staël has written to prove, that the absolute perfection of human nature is a state of perfect melancholy; and that, we are

pause awhile, thinking it likely that, notwithstanding her acknowledged talents, the work she has thus ushered before the public, might be a stupendous production of the genuine German school. In this, however they will be most agreeably disappointed. "The Marshal Prince de Ligne," as the editor tells us in her preface (page 1 and *passim*), "was acknowledged by all Frenchmen (those of happier times, of course) as one of the liveliest, best bred men in France; and seldom did they give that praise to a man who was not born among them. The Prince de Ligne is even the only foreigner, perhaps, who in French composition may be taken as a model, instead of being considered as a copyist [we know another foreigner, much superior to the prince in the originality of his French compositions, we mean our countryman Hamilton], his bravery had that dashing character of impetuosity, which is usually attributed to French courage. There is reason to suspect that on various occasions, since the date of his letters, the Prince de Ligne would have wished for more opportunities to display his French bravery against the French. It follows of course, that the editor has not taken upon herself to refute or to support, any of the opinions maintained by the Prince de Ligne, on different subjects," &c. This alludes principally to the sentiments expressed by the Prince on the French nation, and French revolution; sentiments not perfectly congenial to those of the editor; or to those of the present ruler of France. This *blemish* however will not weigh heavily against the Prince de Ligne in the judgement of our readers: and they will peruse with a lively interest, the spontaneous effusions of a nobleman already known by several valuable publications on history, and on military affairs,—a nobleman who saw his company courted, and his conversation sought after, by the greatest men of his age; who served his sovereign successfully, both in the cabinet, and in the field; who enjoyed the favour, and even the intimacy, of six crowned heads; among whom were Frederick II. of Prussia; Joseph II. of Austria; and Catherine II. of Russia; who to the most brilliant gal-

distinguished from brutes, only by a disposition to arrive at that perfect state: to express which she has coined the word *perfectibilité*.

lantry joined the most accurate judgement, with the most thorough knowledge of the world : and who in the midst of courts knew how to flatter without degrading himself, and to speak the truth, without offending the delicate ears of majesty. The following extracts display the true character of the Prince de Ligne's work ; and therefore we shall introduce them, without further preliminaries.

The writer's portrait of Prince Potemkin will be interesting to others beside those who wish to form a judgement of Russian commanders.

Behold a general-in-chief, who seems lazy, yet his mind is incessantly occupied ; who has no desk but his knees, and no comb but his fingers : always stretched at full length, sleeping neither day nor night, because he is kept in a continual state of agitation, by his zeal for the service of his sovereign whom he worships as a deity, and because he starts at the firing of a gun not aimed against himself, from the idea that it may cost the life of some of his soldiers. Fearful for others, yet exposing his own person ; stopping under the hottest fire of a battery to give orders, yet having more of Ulysses than of Achilles ; uneasy at the foresight of any kind of dangers, gay in the midst of them ; sad when surrounded with pleasures : miserable by too much happiness, benumbed in all his powers of perception ; easily wearied, sullen, inconstant, a deep philosopher, an able minister, a sublime politician, or—a child of ten years old ; in no wise vindictive, apologizing for the slightest pain he has given, eager to repair an injustice ; believing that he loves God, fearing the devil, whom he conceits to be greater still and bulkier than a Prince Potemkin ; kissing one hand to the women he likes, crossing himself with the other. Folding his arms on his breast at the foot of a Madonna, entwining them round the alabaster-neck of his mistress ; receiving innumerable favours from his great sovereign, sharing them immediately after ; accepting lands from the empress, returning them immediately, or paying her debts without acquainting her ; selling, then buying again, immense estates, to erect a colonnade, or plant an English garden ; then parting with them again ; gambling incessantly, or not at all ; more inclined to give away his money, than to pay his debts ; immensely rich, or pennyless ; alternately full of suspicions, or of confident good-nature, of jealousy or of gratitude, of spleen or of joke ; easily prejudiced for or against, changing his mind with equal facility ; entertaining his generals with theology, and his archbishops with military topics ; averse to reading, but watching closely in conversation, and contradicting

frequently to obtain further information ; assuming the most savage or the most amiable countenance ; affecting the most disgusting or the most pleasing manners ; in short resembling alternately the proudest satrap of the East, or the most polished courtier of Louis XIV : excessively harsh according to exterior appearances, but really mild and gentle in his heart ; fanciful as to his hours, his meals, his rest and his amusements ; wishing for every thing like a child, yet knowing how to support all kinds of privations like a great man ; temperate with all the appearance of a glutton ; biting his nails or munching apples or turnips ; scolding or laughing, mimicking or cursing, gamboling or praying, singing or meditating ; calling to him, sending away from him, calling again twenty aids-de-camp without giving them any orders ; supporting heat better than any one, yet always solicitous to procure the most voluptuous baths ; despising cold, yet apparently unable to exist without furs ; either in his shirt, not retaining even drawers, or in regimentals laced down all the seams : either bare-footed, or wearing slippers embroidered with gold spangles, without either a cap or a hat ; (in that equipage I saw him once in an engagement,) sometimes clad in a sable night gown, sometimes in a magnificent tunic, with his three stars, his ribbons, and diamonds as large as one's thumb, round the picture of the empress : these diamonds seem intended there to attract the balls : bent in two, and huddled head to heels when at home ; he is tall, erect, haughty, beautiful, noble, majestic or enchanting when he appears at the head of his army, like Agamemnon surrounded by the kings of Greece.

In what then consists his magic art ? in his genius ;—certainly in his genius ;—and again in his genius. He has, besides, a great share of natural wit, an excellent memory, an excellent mind. He is keen without malice ; and artful without cunning : by the happy mixture of his whims, he gains every heart. When he happens to be in the benevolent mood, his generosity is unbounded ; he is graceful and just in the distribution of rewards ; he possesses a great perspicacity ; the talent of guessing at what he does not know : with a thorough understanding of mankind.

To shew how the Prince de Ligne contrived to manage this extraordinary character, while acting as a commissary of the Emperor of Austria, at the Russian army before Oczakow, we translate the following passage from one of his letters addressed to the Emperor Joseph II. from the camp before that town.

I am here absolutely like a nursery maid : but my child is tall, strong, and very frow-

ard. Yesterday again, he asked me, "do you believe that you came here to lead me by the nose?"—"Do you believe," said I, "that I would have come had I not expected it? Lazy and without experience, what can you do better, my dear prince, than to trust a man anxiously zealous for your glory, and that of the two empires? So very little is wanting to make you a model of perfection! But what can your genius do, if unassisted by trusty friendship?"

The Prince told me:—"make your Emperor cross the Save, and I will cross the Bog."—"How can you?" said I, "stand upon ceremonies, as if you were at the door of a drawing-room? My emperor gives you up all claims to precedence; there is a Turkish army acting against him; there is none opposed to you."—"Do you think" said he, "that he would give us crosses of Maria Theresa, and accept crosses of St. George for those who should distinguish themselves in our two armies?" I saw what he was at. He is mad for Orders: he has only *twelve* of them, and I assured him that Oczakow was well worth our grand cross; and that if he should facilitate to your majesty, the taking of Belgrade, he might pretend to the Order of St. Stephen. I beg, sir, you may be pleased to confirm those hopes I have given him; and if our Roman-catholicity could bend a little in his favour, and promise him the Golden Fleece, he would be entirely our own.

Every one knows, that this Turkish war, the result of the interview of the two sovereigns, on the banks of the Boristhenes, disappointed the interested views of both parties, equally eager for the spoil; but by no means agreed as to their respective share of it. "What the d — I shall we do with Constantinople?" Joseph used to say (Vol. I. p. 96) in the unreserved familiarity which prevailed among the illustrious travellers and their suite, during the whole of their extraordinary journey; yet this apparent friendship covered the heart-burnings of jealousy, which even courtly dissimulation, itself, could not prevent from breaking out at times. This disposition of the two courts, which was indeed to be expected, may account in some measure for the disasters of Austria and the inactivity of Russia, in the first campaign; but from the publication before us (and we need no better authority) there is abundant reason to believe, that the Turks are a much more formidable enemy to the two empires, than is generally supposed. The Prince de Ligne fairly owns as much in several of his let-

ters. Writing to his sovereign from the camp before Oczakow in October 1788, he says, (Vol. I. p. 193) "the month of September will repair the misfortunes of the Bannat, and the want of success in Bosnia. Could any one have believed, that this shattered Mussulman empire, should have reduced Russia to so mortifying a situation?" Again in a letter to Marshal de Lacy, December 1789, (Vol. I. p. 226) "Nothing can be thought of at St. Petersburg, until peace is made with Constantinople. The day the news arrived there that Bulgakoff had been sent to the Seven Towers, the empress was almost sorry for it." The reason of this is, we think, explained by details which the Prince de Ligne gives on the Turkish mode of warfare, &c. We shall extract some of these: *passim*.

I see Turks (Vol. II. p. 13, letter to M. Segur) who pass for being void even of common sense in war, yet carry it on with a kind of method; who scatter themselves, to prevent the fire of our artillery and of our battalions from being directed against them; aiming perfectly, and firing always at collected objects; by that sharpshooting, hiding their own kind of manoeuvres; lurking in every cleft, in every hollow, or on trees; or else advancing, in number 40 or 50, with a standard, which they carry, running and place forward to gain ground. The first kneel on the ground to fire, they then step back to reload, and so on in succession till by another race, in advance, they carry their whirlwind, and their standard farther. These standards are intended to mark the line so that the head of none of these little troops should outpass that of another. Imagine the most dreadful yells, the cries of *allah!* encouraging the Mussulmen, and causing dismay among the Christians; add to that, the cutting off of heads, and the whole is, I think, terrific enough. How in the name of wonder, could my father and three uncles, who fought against the Turks, say, that their order of march resembled the flight of geese, that it was shaped like a pig's head, or like the *cuneus* of the ancients? thus



I have seen nothing which could induce the idea that the like ever existed among them.

In the next letter addressed to the same gentleman, also dated from Oczakow, 1st September 1788, the Prince de Ligne

enters into some further details on the same subject ; to which he adds his sentiments on the means of enabling the Christians to fight the Infidels on better terms. This last part has been a good deal abridged by the editor, through fear of mistakes : and we shall omit it altogether, when not intimately connected with our object, which is to convey information on the mode of Turkish warfare.

They ran, they climb, they leap, because they are lightly clad, and lightly armed ; the weight carried by the stupid Christians, reduces them to the bare power of moving. I had been told that the Turks fought with their arms naked, to have a free use of them, and to cut off heads more dexterously. But this may be more naturally accounted for ; they wear neither shirts nor stockings ; they are often, even, without shoes, and except a small waistcoat, and large drawers, they are quite naked ; no doubt to be more active in the warm countries, where they carry on war. Nevertheless, as they are not famous for foresight, they are not otherwise clad in the coldest weather, when they are shut up in their towns, or during a winter campaign.

Let us have tents as well contrived as those of the Mussulmen ; the same faith if possible in predestination ; and let us try to give the same tools to cavalry, which moving faster than infantry, erects intrenchments, which the last has only to man in occupying its camp.

Let it be forbidden in the army to pronounce the word *Neboisssé* which means *do not be afraid* ; and which the Turks, who are by no means jocose, pronounce in cutting off a head. I have remarked, that this word has an astonishing effect on Christians. Let the soldier be told before hand of the yells of the Infidels, of their ridiculous prancing, which is useless against us, and hurtful to them ; with my regulations, we might easily suffer ourselves to be surrounded by those clouds of spahis [horse soldiers] who buzz about like wasps.

Coolness is necessary when in presence of any troops in the world ; but more especially when before these people ; for when the head of an opponent is morally gone, it is soon physically gone also. Whatever has been said of their opium, and of the fury it excites, is an idle tale. Officers may perhaps use it, sometimes, but it is too dear for the common Turk ; and I have never seen one who had taken any.

The mien and dress of the haughty Ottoman are more dignified than the awkward air, and very often hang dog looks of Christians. The Turks are, at the same time, the most dangerous, and the most contemptible enemy in

the world ; dangerous, when they attack ; contemptible, when they are anticipated. On heights, and in woods, they have had, till now, the advantage over us ; because they run to the attack with confidence, knowing that we have none ourselves when we are thus situated. They have two excellent customs : one is, to get the intrenchments of their camps raised by the spahis, as I mentioned before ; and the other is, to dig holes, in the ground, or within an intrenchment, to shelter themselves from cannon-balls. Every man has his hole, where he remains till the firing is over.

It is impossible to say positively, which is infantry, and which is cavalry. The spahi who has lost his horse, runs and mixes with the infantry ; and the foot soldier who has either won, or taken, or bought a horse, finds his rank among the spahis. In consequence, these last are excellent marksmen ; and whenever they can fire with effect, they use their musquets a great deal ; but they do not set about it like our Christian cavalry, which is always in the wrong, when it has recourse to that weapon. The Spahi alights nimbly from his horse, fires his piece and springs again on horseback with great agility.

The reason why we often witness deeds of heroic bravery from the Mussulman, is, because he never fights, but when he has a mind to it. It is only when in good health, in good humour, and after having taken his coffee, that he prepares his arms for battle. He even waits often for a fine day, and for a vivifying sun. In the beginning of the siege, I used to get up at break of day ; which, in our European armies is often the time chosen for enterprizes. Now, I rest at my ease. The fashionables, easily distinguished by their beautiful horses and the striking colours of their dresses, never issue out before ten, to engage in battle. During the whole siege, the Turks only undertook one trifling operation by night ; and then, probably, because they wanted a general's head, which they accordingly took from M. Maximovitz.

Their artillery, in sieges, is worked by the first soldiers who get up, and who go, and fire their pieces, by way of amusement. The Turks, owing to their instinct, which is often preferable to the boasted systematic sense of the Christians, are extremely handy, and capable of performing the operations of war in all its branches ; but, the first impulse only is in their favour, they are not susceptible of a second thought. And after that lucid moment, of which they make a tolerably fair and proper use, they become a compound of childhood and madness.

Their religious phrenzy increases in proportion to danger. Their cries of *Hechter Allah !* [that is, one only God !] augment daily, and the besiegers are sure not to be

heard, whatever noise they make in opening the trenches. They are never disturbed the first night, which surely is the most interesting

The Prince de Ligne had afterwards the command of an army against these very Turks, which he had so accurately observed: and he had a considerable share in retrieving the honour of the Austrian arms, and in conquering Belgrade. His correspondence during that campaign, contains some curious specimens of official communications, between the commanders of the hostile armies during a kind of armistice: which did not prevent the Turks from now and then cutting off a few heads in the Austrian lines, attacking the boats on the Danube, and celebrating their festivals by firing their great guns with balls, which reached the Austrian camp. The Prince de Ligne was not behind hand in this kind of merriment, which was considered by the Turks as a matter of course; and the death of a few spectators killed in these delightful *feux de joie*, did not occasion the smallest complaint.

We could have wished to have presented our readers with some delineations of the moral character of the Turks drawn by the same able hand; and with some of the lively anecdotes contained in this publication, but our article has already been protracted to an unusual length. For this, the peculiar situation of Turkey, as the object of political envy, and Tilsit *distribution*, must plead our excuse. The authority of this noble soldier supports opinions we have ventured in favour of the Ottomans. But we must dismiss the work, however reluctantly, recommending the perusal of it, as one of the most entertaining collections we have lately seen.

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An Account of Jamaica, and its Inhabitants. By a Gentleman long resident in the West Indies. Price 9s. 8vo. pp. 305. Longman and Co. London 1808.

Our predilection for actual observation and personal experience in writers who undertake to describe the manners of distant places, is well known. Circumstances may occasionally warrant an author in availing himself more or less, of the information collected by those who have preceded him; but this is not so frequently the case as is pretended: nor to

that extent to which some have thought proper to practise it. The early part of the volume before us offers little, with which we were not well acquainted, by having read it more than once in former writers; but the latter part, contains details of negro manners and sentiments, which add to our knowledge of this race of our fellow men. Still, we think, that a mind endued with the talent of remark, and intent on tracing truth, might have collected in the course of twenty one years, more materials of an original description, than are here presented. We presume that the author did not keep journals during his stay on the island; neither did he record such occurrences as he saw, or as were related to him, while recent. He does not write as prompted by rising events, or by incidents of which he might say *quorum pars fui*: his memory for him furnished him with the major part of what he communicates. But memory though an invaluable power of the human mind, will not be thought infallible, by those who have been accustomed to compare places, persons and matters of fact, with their descriptions.

The work opens with an account of the island, its division into counties, and parishes.—Its soil, climate, seasons, government, civil and ecclesiastical, its commerce, and military establishment follow. The natural history of the island, the routine of cultivation, the time and manner of travelling; the ranks of cultivators, as—planters and proprietors, overseers, book-keepers, &c. medical men, &c. the distinctions of population; white, creoles, negroes, &c. domestic and convivial arrangements, the general dissoluteness of manners, irreligion, slavery, with its effects on the slave holders as well as on the slaves; are treated on, nearly in the order in which we have placed them.

Such a variety of subjects afford ample opportunity to a man of mind to compose a volume. We allow the author talent; although, as we guess, it has not been favoured by access to the very first authorities of the island, or by a general acquaintance with the whole of it. What strikes us most powerfully on perusing this volume is, the most lamentable want of religious principles, religious rites, and religious preponderance. The outward attentions of sacred service are not practised: where then is the internal princi-

ple? When public ordinances are forsaken, what hope have we of the personal participation of individuals in its blessings? Unhappily, we know the writer's account to be accurate: we know too the dissoluteness that prevails under the name of conviviality: the prostitution for which convenience is pleaded: and which certainly if fashion, authority, and general compliance may sanction it, is sanctioned in the highest degree. The writer gives an air to his account, as if *formerly* these customs were more flagrant: he speaks too, of the sufferings endured by the slaves, as if they were *formerly* more inhuman, than they are at present. We wish we could enjoy that pleasure which is intended by this information, without alloy. In our opinion there is abundant room for moral improvement on the island of Jamaica, and that *must* take place before it can be, as it might be, a satisfactory, not to say a happy residence. Most earnestly do we wish that the benevolent projects of our pious metropolitan\* may be carried into effect; and that those who designate themselves as the superior part of the inhabitants, would manifest their superiority in correctness of conduct, and propriety of demeanor. For the sake of those who have nobly offered to establish schools, and support schoolmasters, among them, &c. we shall urge this remark no further.

After mentioning the *too profitable* patent places, which this island affords, our author informs us, that,

It has been supposed, that the lawyers of this *petty speck* on the terrestrial globe receive not less than *half a million of money* annually for defending the properties of their fellow citizens against legal or *illegal* invasion, or, to make use of language still more military, for entrenching those properties within legal lines of circumvallation, and fortifying them with bonds, contracts, deeds of gift, precedents and quibbles. It is really astonishing to see the number of actions that are contested in this little spot. It is doubtful to say, whether this be altogether owing to a natural litigiousness of disposition in the inhabitants, perhaps it may in a much greater measure of owing to a propensity in them to heedless expense, chiefly arising from the long, and sometimes indefinite, credits that are given on account of the scarcity of specie. At least

if there was no want of a circulating medium, and the merchants and shopkeepers, &c. were to dispose of their goods at a little more reasonable rate (for at present they have the extreme *modesty* to demand *two*, and sometimes *three hundred per cent.* for them) for cash or other equivalent paid down, the people of this country (that is, of the description here alluded to) would be more economical, more punctual, more honest and independent than they now are, and would not have half the recourse to law which they now have. But when people get involved in a variety of expenses, and incur themselves, in consequence, with debts which their finances, and even properties, are at length inadequate to discharge, they are too apt to fall on low stratagems and base subterfuges, which a generous and honourable mind would spurn at; but which cunning suggests, and necessity dictates, to those who can overcome their scruples. Hence the securing of property, by prior deeds of gifts, beyond the reach of the creditor, the making temporary conveyances, in order to avail themselves of the lenity of the laws of insolvency, and other paltry shifts of dishonesty. It is melancholy to reflect how a benevolent law is thus abused and perverted; how it is made the foundation on which to build the most dishonourable dealing; how it is converted into a door for the fraudulent and unprincipled to escape through. Yet nothing is more common in this country. Instances often occur of men, who have got deeply into debt, eluding the payment of their creditors, by either making over their properties to their families, or getting them secured by a fictitious or nominal deed of gift, and then taking the benefit of the act. Cannot this shameful practice be remedied or prevented? The only precaution the creditor can take to guard himself against this species of fraud, is to search the office, and ascertain whether, in the first place, the property which his *would-be* creditor holds, is his own or not, or whether there are prior judgements against him to the amount of that property; and, if not, to secure himself by taking early judgement on his account or obligation. The man who thus defrauds, or keeps his creditors at bay, generally shields himself from censure by professions of an intention to pay *when he is able*; and so many examples of this mode of dealing exist, that those who are guilty of it do not appear to feel abashed at the thought, neither are they (wonderful to relate) treated with much less respect than they otherwise would have been. Most of the people who have had any dealings in the courts can speak most *knowingly* on the subject of law, and make it a sort of study to become acquainted with all its mysteries and manœuvres.

We hope these *worthies* do not boast of

\* Compare Panorama, Vol. III. p. 1129, and Vol. V. p. 797, where they are stated at large.

their honesty. But, that notwithstanding what we have said, religion is *highly valued* in the island, is undeniable; for, says the writer,

From fifteen hundred to two thousand pounds may be estimated as the income of the rectors.

From the genteeler sort two doubloons, or £10. 13s. 4d. currency is the usual *douceur* for a christening, a marriage, or a funeral; and, out of church (for in the church they must officiate for what the law allows) some of them would disdain to open a prayer book for a smaller sum than one doubloon, or £5. 6s. 8d.

The dependance of the island on foreign parts for its supplies of provisions and other necessities is much diminished from what it formerly was. A greater proportion of food is raised within itself; and even the bread-fruit tree "is not so important an acquisition to the country as was sanguinely expected. Every part of the island now abounds with this plant; but the negro regards this stranger with cold apathy; except as a novelty, he prefers the cultivation of his more productive and substantial plantain, and his more palatable and nutritive yam." The fruit it seems is insipid, and "were the trees destroyed by a hurricane, four years would be required to bring them forward again to fecundity, whereas only one year is required by the plantain, and the yam and other roots are seldom seriously affected by those tropical blasts." Our author commends the bread-nut tree, both for its fruit, and its wood;—is it known among our cabinet makers?—"its beauty of vein rivals the most exquisitely clouded marble."

Very little is the condition of youthful adventurers from Europe to be envied, if this gentleman may be credited: and we suspect, that when he describes the regrets of the young book-keeper to an estate, (the first station of a stranger,) he writes from experience. The attractions of social intercourse on the island are but few: wealth is the object of the inhabitants, and to obtain or secure this, they hazard every thing else.

The Negroes, as we are informed, retain many of their native customs (and we believe more than their European masters discover) the principal of these are, their incantations or practice of *obeah*; their courts of justice, or *palavers*; and

their gambols or recreations. Our author gives an interesting account of these; and we select them in preference to his remarks on the Maroon war, although they too would have been interesting, some years ago.

The spell of an *obeah* consists of whatever is by nature obscene and disgusting: it works on the imagination; whence it sometimes terrifies the guilty; it also guards the property, exposed to plunder; but it loses its effect when the gardens of a *buckra* (white man) are in question.

An *obeah* man or woman upon an estate, is a very dangerous person; and the practice of it for evil purposes is made felony by the law. But numbers may be swept off by its infatuation, before the practice is detected; for, strange as it may appear, so much do the negroes stand in awe of these wretches, so much do they dread their malice and their power, that, though knowing the havoc they have made, and are still making, many of them are afraid to discover them to the whites; and others, perhaps, are in league with them for sinister purposes of mischief and revenge. A negro under this infatuation can only be cured of his terrors by being made a Christian; refuse him this indulgence, and he soon sinks a martyr to imagined evils. The author knew an instance of a negro, who, being reduced by the fatal influence of *obeah* to the lowest state of dejection and debility, from which there were little hopes of his recovery, was surprisingly and rapidly restored to health and to spirits, by being baptized a Christian: so wonderful are the workings of a weak and superstitious imagination.

On many of the estates, the leading and more wealthy negroes erect themselves into a sort of bench of justice, which sits and decides, privately, and without the knowledge and interference of the whites, on all disputes and complaints of their fellow slaves. The sentences of this court are frequently severe, and sometimes partial and inequitable. They consist in pecuniary fines, which often exceed the means of the party. Frequent appeals have been brought before the author from the court, complaining of enormous damages and costs of suit, which the appellants were utterly unable to make good. He has reversed or softened these sentences, always to the great satisfaction of one party, but to the never failing discontent of the other. He has attempted to abolish these courts altogether, but without success; still they would secretly hold their sittings, and were countenanced and desired by the principal negroes and their adherents. There were no advocates or pleaders in these courts; the judged themselves pleaded, and, when agreed

in opinion, they passed sentence. Bribery, of course, had great *weight* in their decisions, and favour and affection were not unattended to; so that the poorest and most unfriended of the negroes had the worst chance of justice from their hands. The opening and proceedings of this court were curious enough. On the judges taking their seats (usually three in number) and the parties appearing, not a word was spoken on any of the causes, till the former had half intoxicated themselves by copious libations of rum, which was presented to them by the respective plaintiffs and defendants, this offering being considered as an indispensable preliminary to the dispensing of justice. It is wonderful, however, with what patience they would hear each other's long harangues; though sometimes, where there was an irreconcilable difference of opinion between the judges, the court would break up with much clamour.

The negroes are indulged, after crop time, with a harvest home of jollity and mirth; but the time of their principal enjoyment is at Christmas. This is, in fact, their Saturnalia; they appear to be quite another race from that of their former selves, they affect to be gentlefolks; drink with their masters; and are apt to indulge themselves to a fatal extreme. They dance night and day; they roam, they riot; and, says our author, were this indulgence continued three weeks instead of three days, it would sweep off a considerable portion of the negro population.

On new year's day it was customary for the negro girls of the towns (who conceive themselves far superior to those on the estates, in point of *taste*, *manners*, and *fashion*) to exhibit themselves in all the pride of gaudy splendor, under the denomination of *blues* and *reds*—parties in rivalry and opposition to each other, and distinguished by these colours. These girls were wont to be decked out with much taste, sometimes at the expense of their white or brown mistresses, who took a pride in shewing them off to the greatest advantage. Their dress was of the finest muslin, trimmed with gold or silver, and ornamented with blue or red ribbons, according to their party; and gold necklaces, ear-rings, and other expensive trinkets, shone to advantage on their sable wearers. The most comely young negresses were selected, and such as had a fine and tutored voice; they paraded through the streets, two and two, in the most exact order, uniform in their dress, and nearly of the same stature and age. They were accompanied by instrumental music; but they generally sung together different songs which they had learned for the occasion,

VOL. VI. [*Lit. Pan. May, 1809.*]

or those which they had caught up from the whites, in a style far superior to the negresses on the plantations. Their appearance in short, was splendid, elegant, and tasteful, such as would surprise and delight a stranger. At night they had booths erected, illuminated with variegated lamps, and embellished with transparencies and other devices: here they were flattered by the attendance of the white ladies and gentlemen of the place, who came to see this exhibition, and were regaled by a profusion of wines, liqueurs, and sweetmeats. This spirit of emulation, in these parties, for finery and shew, is, however, less prevalent now than it used to be. For some years back, no exhibitions have taken place:—and perhaps it is just as well; for they sometimes gave rise to much riot and uproar, and were indeed a powerful temptation to pilferage and robbery; as every individual of each party *must*, for the honour of her party, and her own credit sake, obtain *somehow* a suitable dress, and corresponding ornaments. Indeed, it is astonishing how costly some of them appear equipped. The queen, as she is called, of each party, displays, in particular, a richness of dress, and a profusion of ornament, which would not disgrace even a theatrical empress. Some of these dresses would perhaps amount to little less than fifty or sixty pounds. This annual finery cannot on any account be dispensed with; if a negress were to go all the rest of the years in filthy and raggedness, still she must have her fine clothes for Christmas.

Those who have not at hand the more expensive volumes of Long, Edwards, &c. or who do not wish to enter deeply into commercial calculations, may derive information from this volume, which none ought to be without, who desire to form a due estimate of the distant parts and connections of the British dominions.

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Natural Theology, or a Demonstration of the Being and Attributes of God, from his Works of Creation; arranged in a popular Way for Youth. By W. Enfield, M.A. Price 2s. 6d. pp. 174. 12mo. Tegg, London, 1808.

A PROPER book enough for youth. The language is somewhat raised above the level of children; and indeed some of the subjects exceed their comprehension. The chapters are decorated with wood-cuts; we cannot say they are well composed for their situations: neither are they well executed. They might have been made much more instructive.

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Cælebs in Search of a Wife: comprehending Observations on Domestic Habits and Manners, Religion and Morals. The fifth Edition. In two Volumes. 8vo. pp. 850. Price 16s. London, Cadell and Davies, 1809.

AMONG the ancient basso-relievos for which we are indebted to Grecian art, still (or lately) remaining at Rome, is one, representing the celebration of a marriage; in which the sculptor has composed a treatise on the duties, the advantages, and the means of felicity, in that honoured state. A plate of it may be seen among the "*Admiranda Romanarum*" of Bartoli: but it will be, we believe, for the first time, explained in the present article. On the right of the composition is the bride attended by her bridesmaid, and the bridegroom attended by his companions: a veil or canopy is spread over this group. Between, and behind, the bride and bridegroom is seen *Juno Pronuba* (a divinity which we beg leave to assimilate to our general idea of Divine Providence) her hands reclining on the shoulders of the parties espoused, and bringing them together. In front of all stands a boy Hymen, his torch brightly flaming, while the happy pair pledge their vows, by joining their right hands. In his left hand the bridegroom holds a roll of paper, which, no doubt, records the donative he makes to his bride. So far this composition presents nothing unusual: but, in addition, adjoining to this group are placed the proper implements for sacrifice; an altar, with fruits upon it, a sheep before it; behind it, attendants with incense, music, &c. Then is represented, looking towards this sacrifice, a female figure holding a dove, followed by another carrying a garland, also a male figure, holding a roll of paper; and lastly, a female figure, her head crowned with turrets, looking upward, and bearing a cornucopia, laden with fruits, &c. The author intended to remind those who honoured his work with their consideration, that a marriage, to be happy, should be the result of mutual troth plighted under the guidance of Providence: it should be combined with Piety towards God, signified by the sacrifice; with reciprocal Affection, signified by the figure

holding the dove; with ornamental Decorum, signified by the figure bearing the garland; with domestic Good Management, signified by the figure with the scroll, in which household accounts are kept; and these accompanied by, or resulting in, Plenty, fertility, signified by the figure holding the cornucopia, who looking up to heaven, expresses thankfulness to the bountiful Benefactor, for those favours which fill her horn. The heathen who could derive his expectation of a happy conjugality from the influence of piety, affection, ornamental manners, household regularity, and thankful competency, we recommend as a monitor, — why not as a reprove? — to Christians who think of that state without these virtues. Which of them can common sense spare? Which of them does not Christianity enforce? Which of them is it any degradation to the well-instructed to practice? Which of them would it be any injury to the less instructed to acquire? Happy were it for thousands professing the christian name, if they would enter into the views of this heathen moralist: happy is it, for tens of thousands, who are christians indeed, that they have learned similar lessons, though from another school; and as much excel this heathen instructor, as his *basso-relievo* of insensible stone, is excelled by the agile graces of living flesh and blood.

We boast of the superior advantages enjoyed under the gospel dispensation: do we really exemplify their effects? Are they living, influential principles? Are they names, mere names, or are they inspiring spirits, directing our thoughts, sentiments, words, actions, general conduct, and habit?

The writer of the volumes before us, Mrs. Hannah More, is well known to the public by various performances intended to promote piety and godliness. This work will not detract from her fame. It is favourable at once to religion and taste; and we are the better pleased with it, because we fear that many religionists are enemies to taste, (without any just reason that we ever could discover) and many men of taste are enemies to religion, when *that*, of all things, is indispensable to ensure their felicity. The man who, under pretence of religion, deprecates the elegancies of nature or art, whose house must be *cool*, whose furniture must be

uncouth, whose accommodations must be coarse, whose person must be neglected, —we advise to re-study the character of that example, whose follower he professes to be. He will find nothing negligent, coarse, uncouth, or unbecoming: but, if that fails, and if his perverse nature prevails over grace, well understood, and he insists on thinking himself wiser than seven men who can render a reason,—we remit him to the deserts of Thebais; with a demission to stand umpire between the Dæmon Asmodeus, and the holy Anchorite St. Anthony. Not less than we prefer the verdant meads, and fertile soil of Britain to the arid wastes of Egypt, do we prefer seemly arrangements, agreeable manners, aye, and courtly elegancies, too, in proper time, and place, when combined with the genuine spirit of Christianity. Happily for our islands, they are frequently found among us; and we are not a little indebted for them to the honest influence of that sex which

Nature formed;

To temper man.

The Bachelor of our corps, it is true, insists that he never yet could find “Stanley Grove;” that he has traversed many countries beside that in which it is placed by the worthy writer, without meeting with a Lucilla Stanley; that the authoress has indulged her imagination at the expense of her judgment; and that a young lady so very, very good, is—(and he is an ancient visitor at Christie’s)—of extreme rarity—a *bijoux*,—an *unique*,—a *chef d’œuvre*. Now, we freely confess, that such ladies are not numerous; but they exist:—they are gems and jewels,—and their partners value them as such: they are *chefs d’œuvres*, too;—and hence their rarity. A lady may be born to beauty; but she must be instructed to virtue; she may inherit many feminine attractions, and “a pomp of winning graces may wait on her” personally: but, though native of a christian country, she may be a heathen; and amid all the radiance of the gospel, she may rank no higher, than an ancient Phryne or Lais, who never enjoyed advantages, that have been easily within her reach, and possibly have been earnestly pressed on her attention.

The purpose of the writer will be answered, we doubt not, if parents should

take the hints she has dropped, and endeavour by example as well as precept to form the minds of their children, on the model here presented to them. If instead of supposing their offspring to be all perfection, they would consider them, as partaking like others in the common corruption of our nature, and would seriously devote their attention to the correction of evil propensities, much might be done. A judicious and persevering solicitude to foster by every possible mean, and on all occasions, the contrary virtues, till formed into habit, might, under some very pardonable partialities of an enamoured Cælebs, present Lucilla Stanleys in other countries than Hampshire. And if the character of that young lady should be thought somewhat inaccessible, by juvenile readers, it will be ample encouragement to refer such to their mothers, who shew them how to attain it.

But, the purpose of the writer will be still further answered, if the numerous fair readers which applaud her work should exert their honourable endeavours to rival her heroine. In this, her principal character, she has associated personal piety with practical charity, domestic economy with ornamental manners; the knowledge of how to make a proper use of a plentiful fortune, with that humility, which the proud may affect in vain. We have lived long enough, in the world, and have had sufficient confidence placed in us, to know, by what is so closely allied to experience, that it might honestly bear the name, that happiness *must* stand on the basis of religion: that unhappiness is not seldom so far abated by the influence of religious principle as to become almost tolerable; and that this alone is efficacious in directing the chequered scenes of life to advantage. We have indeed had the mortification to be convinced that all are not religious, who talk about religion; and some of the personages in these volumes, are pretty close copies of characters not unknown to our observation.

And this induces us to remark, that the purpose of the writer will be most completely answered, if certain professors of religion should examine more minutely than they have hitherto done, those principles which they maintain; especially as to their influence on practice. It is very true, that this world is a mingled state;

and we are in duty bound to make considerable allowances. Indeed, a greater portion of allowance made *for others*, and a smaller *for self*, may safely be recommended, as what would do no harm to many zealous sticklers—for Truth?—why, yes, to do them justice, for Truth; according to their views and conceptions of Truth.

We heartily wish, therefore, that the religious world may take advantage of the opportunities which certain chapters of this work afford them for looking into it as a mirror, and removing whatever specks they discover on the countenance: that young ladies will endeavour to understand and appropriate the excellencies which they admire in Miss Stanley, and her sisters; and that married couples will put into practice, steadily, as the result of conviction, those laudable customs, of which they will find examples in the family at "the Grove."

Cœlebs is a young man under twenty-four years of age, who having not long ago lost his father, and afterwards his mother feels "the Priory" in Yorkshire lonely; and looks out for a companion. But his parents had always taught him to regard *consistency* in a wife as a *sine qua non*; and his father had made him promise not to engage himself, without consulting Mr. Stanley, at "the Grove," in Hampshire. Accordingly, he determines to visit Mr. Stanley. In his way he falls into company with different characters, at London: but no young lady equals his expectation of *consistency*. He continues his route to Mr. Stanley; in whose eldest daughter, Lucilla, he finds what he seeks. After a proper interval, on breaking the matter to Mr. Stanley, he discovers that his father had this connection in view for him, and that the two old friends had so far laid a plot for his happiness, as to promote an interview between the son of one and the daughter of the other, in hopes that the virtues of each would prove mutually attractive. The incidental display of character connected with this simple structure of the story is the merit of the work. There are some rather deep discussions intermingled in the course of it: they have however a practical tendency: and our opinion of it, as a whole, may be inferred from the action of the reader to our corps—who after he had ended the two volumes, looked about for

a third; in which he expected to find the letters that passed between the lovers, during the three months interval before marriage. We hope the ingenious authoress will relieve his disappointment; and publish what she thinks proper of them: as we flatter ourselves she has access to the original correspondence.

Not the least faithful of the portraits in this collection is that of Mrs. Ranby, a part of which we shall set before our readers.

In the evening Mrs. Ranby was lamenting in general and rather customary terms, her own exceeding sinfulness. Mr. Ranby said, "You accuse yourself rather too heavily, my dear, you have sins to be sure." "And pray what sins have I, Mr. Ranby?" said she, turning upon him with so much quickness that the poor man started. "Nay," said he meekly, "I did not mean to offend you; so far from it, that hearing you condemn yourself so grievously, I intended to comfort you, and to say that, except a few faults,—"
"And! pray what faults?" interrupted she, continuing to speak however, lest he should catch an interval to tell them.
"I defy you Mr. Ranby to produce one."
"My dear," replied he, "as you charged yourself with all, I thought it would be letting you off cheaply by naming only two or three, such as—"
Here, fearing matters would go too far, I interposed, and softening things as much as I could for the lady, said, "I conceived that Mr. Ranby meant, that though she partook of the general corruption" here Ranby, interrupting me with more spirit than I thought he possessed, said, "General corruption, sir, must be the source of particular corruption. I did not mean that my wife was worse than other women."
"Worse Mr. Ranby, worse?" cried she. Ranby, for the first time in his life, not minding her, went on, "As she always insists that the whole species is corrupt, she cannot help allowing that she herself has not quite escaped the infection. Now to be a sinner in the gross and a saint in the detail; that is, to have all sins, and no faults, is a thing I do not quite comprehend."

In the following character,—and in the proportion of such which adorns society, we heartily agree in opinion with the writer: we have the happiness to know many instances: but such are not *public*.

There is a large class of excellent female characters, who, on account of that very excellence, are little known, because to be known is not their object. Their ambition has a better taste. They pass through life honoured and respected in their own small,

but not unimportant sphere, and approved by him, "whose they are, and whom they serve," though their faces are hardly known in promiscuous society. If they occasion little sensation abroad, they produce much happiness at home. And when once a woman who has "all appliances and means to get it," can withstand the intoxication of the flatterer, and the adoration of the fashionable; can conquer the fondness for public distinction, can resist the temptations of that magic circle to which she is courted, and in which she is qualified to shine—this is indeed a trial of firmness; a trial in which those who have never been called to resist themselves, can hardly judge of the merit of resistance in others.

These are the women who bless, dignify, and truly adorn society. The painter indeed does not make his fortune by their sitting to him; the jeweller is neither brought into vogue by furnishing their diamonds, nor undone by not being paid for them; the prosperity of the milliner does not depend on affixing their name to a cap or a colour; the poet does not celebrate them; the novelist does not dedicate to them; but they possess the affection of their husbands, the attachment of their children, the esteem of the wise and good, and above all they possess *his* favour, "whom to love is life eternal."

I am persuaded that a women compose a larger portion of the sex, than is generally allowed. It is not the number but the noise which makes a sensation, and a set of fair dependent young creatures who are every night forced, some of them reluctantly, upon the public eye; and a bevy of faded matrons rouged and repaired for an ungrateful public, dead to their blandishments, do not compose the whole female world!

The recipe for forming the youthful mind to this truly elevated character may be gathered from the description of Miss Stanley:

After admiring in the warmest terms the purity and generosity of her heart, I pressed Dr. Barlow still farther, as to the interior of her mind. I questioned him as to her early habits, and particularly as to her religious attainments, telling him that nothing was indifferent to me which related to Lucilla.

"Miss Stanley," replied he, "is governed by a simple, practical end, in all her religious pursuits. She reads her bible, not from habit, that she may acquit herself of a customary form; not to exercise her ingenuity by allegorizing literal passages, or spiritualizing plain ones, but that she may improve in knowledge, and grow in grace. She accustoms herself to meditation, in order to get her mind more deeply imbued with a sense of eternal things. She practises self-examina-

tion, that she may learn to watch against the first rising of bad dispositions, and to detect every latent evil in her heart. She lives in the regular habit of prayer; not only that she may implore pardon for sin, but that she may obtain strength against it. She told me one day when she was ill, that if she did not constantly examine the actual state of her mind, she should pray at random, without any certainty what particular sins she should pray against, or what were her particular wants. She has read much scripture and little controversy. There are some doctrines that she does not pretend to define, which she yet practically adopts. She cannot perhaps give you a disquisition on the mysteries of the Holy Spirit, but she can and does fervently implore his guidance and instruction; she believes in his efficacy, and depends on his support. She is sensible that those truths, which from their deep importance are most obvious, have more of the vitality of religion, and influence practice more, than those abstruse points, which unhappily split the religious world into so many parties.

"If I were to name what are her predominant virtues, I should say sincerity and humility. Conscious of her own imperfections, she never justifies her faults, and seldom extenuates them. She receives reproof with meekness, and advice with gratitude. Her own conscience is always so ready to condemn her, that she never wonders, nor takes offence at the censures of others.

"That softness of manner which you admire in her is not the varnish of good breeding, nor is it merely the effect of good temper, though in both she excels, but it is the result of humility. She appears humble, not because a mild exterior is graceful, but because she has an inward conviction of unworthiness which prevents an assuming manner. Yet her humility has no cant; she never disburthens her conscience by a few disparaging phrases, nor lays a trap for praise by indiscriminately condemning herself. Her humility never impairs her cheerfulness; for the sense of her wants directs her to seek, and her faith enables her to find, the sure foundation of a better hope than any which can be derived from a delusive confidence in her own goodness.

But, this is only a part of Miss Stanley's good qualities: she is an economist in the true sense of the world: knows when the market penny is properly expended; and when the cook does her duty skilfully: she understands the decorations of the table; and the composition of *ragouts*. She is a gardener; an architect; of a literary turn, and reads Latin with her father. These domestic acquirements are properly estimated by our authoress.

"In how many of my friends' houses," said Mr. Carlton, "have I observed the contrary habits produce contrary effects! A young lady bred in total ignorance of family management, transplanted from the house of her father, where she has learnt nothing, to that of her husband, where she is expected to know every thing, disappoints a prudent man: his affection may continue, but his esteem will be diminished; and with his happiness, his attachment to home will be proportionably lessened."

"It is perfectly just," said Sir John, "and this comfortless deficiency has naturally taught men to inveigh against that higher kind of knowledge which they suppose, though unjustly to be the cause of ignorance in domestic matters. It is not entirely to gratify the animal, as Miss Sparkes supposes, that a gentleman likes to have his table well appointed; but because his own dignity and his wife's credit are involved in it. The want of this skill is one of the grand evils of modern life. *From the heiress of the man of rank, to the daughter of the opulent tradesman, there is no one quality in which young women are so generally deficient as in domestic economy.* And when I hear learning contended for on one hand, and modish accomplishments on the other, I always contend for this intermediate, this valuable, this neglected quality, so little insisted on, so rarely found, and so indispensably necessary."

But we must not suppose that the ladies only are exemplary in this novel: Mr. Stanley, has his distinguishing merits: they are rational as well as practical:—thus the authoress describes him.

It was evident that piety was the predominating principle of his mind, and that he was consulting its interests as carefully when prudence made him forbear to press it, as when propriety allowed him to introduce it. This piety was rather visible in the sentiment than the phrase. He was of opinion that bad taste could never advance the interests of Christianity. And he gave less offence to worldly men, than most religious people I have known, because though he would, on no human consideration, abate one atom of zeal, nor lower any doctrine, nor disguise any truth, nor palliate, nor trim, nor compromise, yet he never contended for words or trifling distinctions. He thought it detracted from no man's piety to bring all his elegance of expression, his correctness of taste, and his accuracy of reasoning to the service of that cause, which lies the nearest to the heart of every Christian, and demands the best exertion of his best faculties.

The character of Dr. Barlow is honourable to the clerical profession: we wish

it were more common. That of Sir John Belfield will be thought as natural as most with which we are brought acquainted in these volumes. There are others, intended to furnish lessons of a different kind.

We shall not seek for exceptions in a work calculated to do good: perhaps we might have wished a sentence here and there, somewhat modified; but while we bear a willing testimony to the general merit of the performance—let the specks escape censure.

We are sometimes glad to commend a book for negative merit; it will do no harm: and sometimes we have the satisfaction of being able to strengthen our commendation by the addition, that good may be derived from parts of it: Mrs. More has purposed that, either by correction, by precept, by illustration, by exemplification, or by encouragement, every part of her performance should tend to good. This, we trust will be proved by the issue; and although the instances to which in compliance with her wishes her readers may aspire, of very exalted excellence will be few, yet many may attain to higher degrees than they would have done, had they not had such exalted models of excellence presented for their emulation.

Est quædam prodire tenus, si non datur ultra.

The Practical Norfolk Farmer; describing the Management of a Farm throughout the Year, with Observations founded on Experience. 8vo. pp. 124. Price 5s. Stevenson and Co. Norwich 1808.

THE Norfolk system or rather practice of husbandry is deservedly famous: and many of the counties of our island cast a longing eye towards the advantages which report ascribes to it. Part of these advantages is natural; part is the effect of skill. Every county has not that supply of marle, on which a Norfolk farmer depends as a chief agent in promoting the fertility of his land: and even in some parts of this county this active assistant is not easily procured. But, the other dependence of the agriculturist in this county may be cultivated almost everywhere, we mean turnips; and few are the set soils and situations where this plant is not very beneficial and productive. Our author, however, begins his work with stating

the importance of leases; and we completely coincide in his ideas that yearly tenants never can bring their farms into a state of cultivation equal to that of farmers who have a more abiding interest in the soil. Capital must be had, and it must be called into exercise if a farm is to be thoroughly tilled; but yearly tenants are by no means likely to accumulate capital: they therefore cannot lay out the proper expenses when wanted; and the land continues, of course, unimproved.

The writer treats of the regular operations of the farm, month by month; he describes the course of crops, and the proper seasons for attending to each. We cannot follow him in these; but must content ourselves with saying that he throws out some valuable hints. Neither is it very advantageous to describe the properties or uses of marle to our readers in counties where that substance is unknown. But, as the species of turnip is of consequence, and may be obtained by those who interest themselves in this culture, we shall, as a specimen of his work, extract our farmer's account of the different kinds of this vegetable.

The sorts of seed are various, but the White Loaf, as it is termed (from growing round, and not unlike one in its shape), is in most general use, as the best adapted for the spring feed. The Bell Stock, called so from its being somewhat the shape of a bell, is very frequently sown, and on good soils where the land is in a high state of cultivation, will yield a superior quantity of feed for the first four months of using turnips, but they will not bear severe frosts equal to the other, from their rising so much above the ground.

The White Pudding turnip is more frequently sown than it was some years since, and for early use exceeds any other in producing turnips of great bulk on soils that are suitable for their growth. They arrive to an enormous size on a rich ouze.

On spots of land that adjoin meadows and are moist, the Purple Pudding turnip is often sown, and is found on such soils to succeed well; it is of a more hardy kind than the white, but not thicker in its rind, grows very firm, and seems better calculated for such purposes than any other.

The Green turnip is seldom sown here, the great objection against it is the thickness of its rind; though it is exceedingly well adapted to bear sharp frosts, and after a very severe winter they are of utility, but in favourable ones they are inferior to the others.

Great care is required in selecting the different sorts for seed, and the most judicious cultivators always preserve it under their own management. A great deal depends in fixing on the best shaped and cleanest topped turnips; and the different sorts should not be placed near each other, for without the utmost care they will degenerate the first year: this is supposed to arise from the bee passing hastily from flower to flower, in the height of the blossoming.

Seed should never be sown of more than one year old; as by keeping it two, damage will ensue from the insects called mites, which imperceptibly injure it, especially after the first year. After the new seed is perfectly dry, wood ashes should be sifted amongst it; this hinders the mites from doing injury to it, as without such precaution they will the first year.—Care should be taken that the seed be kept in a perfectly dry place, and frequently stirred, as the least dampness will cause hurt to it, and the insects to increase.

It is usual to put a quantity of the seed, sufficient for the land ploughed in the forenoon journey, in a tub of water, and by repeated stirring, the decayed and damaged seeds will rise on the surface, which are skimmed off. It then receives another brisk stirring, and the water is instantly poured out, before the weak seeds have time to settle, as numbers will be seen floating between the surface of the water and the good seed, these pour off with the water, and leave only the soundest and best at the bottom; for though these weak seeds might vegetate, yet they would not produce strong healthy plants. The seed is then poured into a sieve to drain the remainder of the water from it; and spread on a dry cloth, and is soon fit for use. The same course is repeated for the afternoon journey, as it is not proper to wash it faster than it is wanted.

The Wonders of the Horse: Recorded in Anecdotes, and interspersed with Poetry.

Selected by Joseph Taylor. Price 2s. small 12mo. pp. 144. Darton, London, 1808.

We approve of putting into the hands of youth such works as may import useful sentiments to the mind. Nothing can be more proper for persons of every age than feelings of compassion for brutes, and habits of attention to the wants and sufferings of their animal servants. This selection, contains some striking anecdotes, and may do good. The horse and the dog are eminently friends of man. Mr. Taylor has also compiled a general character of the latter.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE REVIEW
DEPARTMENT.

It is not for poets of "pigmy size" to enter into controversy with "most potent, grave, and reverend" Reviewers; however, as the author of the *MINOR MINSTREL* has been cited to appear at the bar of the *LITERARY PANORAMA*, under a charge of inconsistency in a certain poem called "The Cottage's Tale," he presumes on the liberality of the court to allow him, respectfully, to offer a few words, by way of explanation and defence. It has been remarked,* that "clustering nuts" are never seen at the same time with "spring's first violets" and "vernal primroses."—True: but on a careful re-perusal of the passage, it will, no doubt, be seen, that the author did not confine himself to the time present, but to other times. If attention be paid to the colon at the end of the 4th line

—and, pendant clustering nuts are seen:

—it will appear that the language of the speaker, on entering on his autumnal ramble in this lane, implies that "on the bank below," (from its sheltered and favourable situation) the first violets, and the first primroses of spring are accustomed to grow. Perhaps a full stop at the end of the 4th line would have rendered the sense less dubious. The rest of the strictures are so candid and impartial, that the author submits to them with all due deference.

LITERARY REGISTER.

Authors, Editors, and Publishers are particularly requested to forward to the Literary Panorama Office, post paid, the titles, prices, and other particulars of works in hand, or published, for insertion in this department of work.

WORKS ANNOUNCED FOR PUBLICATION.

ANTIQUITIES.

Mr. Thomas Hope will publish this spring, a Collection of Designs, representing the costume of the ancients. It will consist of about 160 engravings in outline, with an introduction, and will form two volumes, quarto and octavo.

BIOGRAPHY.

Francis Hardy, Esq. is about to publish, in an octavo volume, the Life of the late Earl of Charlemont, including a View of the Affairs of Ireland, during a very interesting and important period.

Mr. M. Murfitt, of Trinity College, Cambridge, is about to publish an Essay on the Life and Character of Agesilaus, son of Archidamas.

CLASSICAL LITERATURE.

The Rev. J. Girdlestone intends to publish, by subscription, all the Odes of Pindar, translated into English verse, &c.

EDUCATION.

Dr. Mavor is about to produce a Series of Ca-

* In the *Literary Panorama*, for March. Vol. V. p. 1117.

techisms on popular Subjects. The Mothers' Catechism, a Catechism of Health, and another on General Knowledge, will appear in a few days, and be followed in rapid succession by others on English History, Universal History, Geography, Animated Nature, Botany, the Laws and Constitution of England, the Bible, &c. They are intended to be sold separately, or to form, when collected, two pocket volumes.

GEOGRAPHY.

Dr. William Neilson proposes to publish two large Maps of ancient and modern Geography combined. The first will comprehend all that part of the world which was known to the ancients; exhibiting together the ancient and modern names of each place. The second will contain only the central part, or Roman and Grecian empires, with their dependencies; and on the sides of each map will be alphabetical lists of all the ancient names, with the corresponding modern ones, longitude, latitude, &c. so as to form a complete view of ancient geography, presented to the eye at once.

GEOLOGY.

Mr. De Luc is about to publish, in an octavo volume, an Elementary Treatise on Geology; containing an examination of some modern geological systems, and more particularly of the Huttonian Theory of the Earth.

HISTORY.

A History of the Germanic Empire, from the pen of Mr. Smith, of Dublin, will shortly be given to the public.

Dr. Rutherford's Ancient History, is reprinting in two duodecimo volumes, for schools.

MATHEMATICS.

Mr. Renouard, of Trinity College, Cambridge, will speedily publish a Treatise on Spherical Trigonometry.

MEDICINE.

Dr. Sterney has in the press, a Treatise on Local Inflammation, more particularly applied to diseases of the eye.

A Society of Physicians in this metropolis have been engaged in collecting materials for a new work, to be called The Annual Medical Register; containing a complete account of the medicinal literature of the preceding year. With an Historical Sketch of the Discoveries and Improvements in Medicine and the collateral Sciences; A Report of the General State of Health and Diseases in the Metropolis; A brief Detail of Miscellaneous Occurrences, &c. &c.

METAPHYSICS.

Mr. Drew, author of an Essay on the Immateriality and Immortality of the Soul, has in the press, in an octavo volume, An Essay on the Identity and General Resurrection of the Human Body.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. Custance has in the press, a new and improved edition of his Concise View of the Constitution of England.

Mr. J. Rickman, surgeon, of Lewes, will shortly publish a small volume, entitled, *Epistola Amicæ, or, The Friendly Call*.

The Abridgement of the Philosophical Transactions, by Drs. Hutton, Shaw, and Pearson, from the time of their commencement to the close of the year 1800, will be completed in the course of the present month.

A Selection from the Gentleman's Magazine, arranged under the heads of 1. History and Antiquities. 2. Ancient and modern Literature, Criticism, and Philology. 3. Philosophy and Natural History. 4. Letters to and from eminent Persons. 5. Miscellaneous Articles, &c. in three volumes octavo, will shortly issue from the press at Oxford, under the superintendence of a Gentleman of that University.

Rev. Joseph Samuel C. F. Frey, Minister of the Gospel to the Jews, will publish in a few days, his Narrative, containing an account of his Descent and Education—his Offices among the Jews—the Occasion of his entering the Missionary Seminary at Berlin—his Design in coming to this Country—and his Labours under the Patronage of the Missionary Society: together with Explanations of the circumstances which led to his separation from that Society, and to his union with the London Society for promoting Christianity among the Jews.

Mr. Frey has also prepared an English-Hebrew Grammar, which will shortly be published by subscription. Price, to subscribers, eight shillings; to be paid on delivery of the book.

Mr. Yorick Wilson, Veterinary Surgeon of Lemington, near Warwick, has in the press an improved practical treatise on farriery, entitled, The Gentleman's Veterinary Monitor. It is the result of his own experience in the various diseases of horses, and prescribes humane and rational methods of cure without the assistance of a farrier. It likewise treats on breeding, training, purchasing, riding, management on a journey and in the stable, &c. The work will appear in a few days, in a portable size.

NOVELS AND ROMANCES.

Mr. Belfour has in the press, a metrical romance, in five cantos, entitled, Spanish Heroism, or, The Battle of Roncesvalles.

Mrs. Holstein will speedily publish a novel under the title of The Assassin of St. Glenroy, or, The Axis of Life.

Mr. Rylance is preparing for the press a romance, to be entitled, Francesco, or, The Fool of Genius; founded on the extraordinary life of Mazzuoli, celebrated as a painter, by the name of Parmegiano.

Messrs. Murray, of London, and Ballantyne, of Edinburgh, have announced a splendid collection of the most esteemed Novels and Romances, printed from, and collated with, the best editions; including Translations, selected from foreign languages, with Critical and Biographical Prefaces, in twenty volumes, royal octavo.

Certain booksellers of London, the proprietors of the best novels, have announced another Collection of Novels, to be edited by Mrs. Barbauld, and to contain every work of merit, in that department of literature.

PHILOLOGY.

Mr. Bradley, of Wallingford, has prepared under the sanction of Dr. Valpy, and other distinguished preceptors, a Series of Grammatical Questions, adapted to Lindley Murray's Grammar, with copious notes and illustrations. The idea was suggested by Morgan's very useful book, the Grammatical Questions.

A Member of the University of Oxford has announced for publication, a work, entitled, Lindley

Murray Examined; in an Address to Classical English and French Teachers, pointing out grammatical errors, and the necessity of an English grammar, that will lead to that of any other language without violating the purity of the English.

POETRY.

The Columbiad, a poem, on the subject of American Independence, by Mr. Barlow, an American poet, will be reprinted immediately in London.

PUBLIC ELOCUTION.

Mr. Thelwall is preparing for publication, An Essay on the Causes and probable Consequences of the Decline of popular Talent in the Senate and at the Bar, &c. Besides a full discussion of the principal desiderata in the prevailing plans of education; this will contain critical delineations of the characters, talents, eloquence, and oratorical endowments of the late Right Hon. Edm. Burke, Wm. Pitt, Ch. Jas. Fox, &c. This Essay is not intended, in any respect, as a party pamphlet, but will aspire to the superior character of a philosophical disquisition.

Mr. Thelwall is also about to circulate through all the colleges and public institutions of the United Kingdom, the Plan of his Institution for the Cure of Impediments, Cultivation of Oratory, and Preparation of Youths for the higher Departments of active Life; with Proposals for the further extension of the Plan. The Institution has now been established upwards of three years; and Mr. T. asserts, that no person, with any species of impediment, defect, or foreign or provincial accent, has been under instruction, even for the shortest period, without receiving essential benefit; or has persevered, for any reasonable time, without attaining an effectual cure. He therefore thinks it but justice to society, to advance the claims of his discoveries to public attention, in a manner proportioned to their importance. Several members of his family are qualified to assist in the undertaking.

THEOLOGY.

Two volumes of Sermons, by the late Bishop Horsley, are intended to be published by subscription, and will be ready in June next.

The Rev. Mr. Ewing, of Glasgow, at the request of the London Missionary Society, shortly intends to publish Essays, addressed to the Jews, on the authority, the scope, and the consummation of the law and the prophets, 1 volume 12mo.

The Rev. Dr. Carpenter has in the press, Discourses on the genuineness, integrity, and public version of the New Testament.

TOPOGRAPHY.

A Series of Letters on Canada will shortly appear, written by a gentleman lately resident some years in that country; giving a description of its people, manners, laws, customs, productions, trade, &c.

TRAVELS.

Mr. James Macdonald, late Lieutenant-Colonel of the Caithness Fencibles, having been wrecked in November last, on the Schaw, proposes to publish An Account of his subsequent Travels through Denmark and Sweden.

Mr. Fenton's long-expected Tour through Pembroke-shire is in the press, and will appear in the course of this spring, in a quarto volume, embellished with views of all the principal seats and

ruins, drawn chiefly by Sir Richard Hoare. This Tour is intended as the first of a Series of Tours through North and South Wales, which will be conducted on the same plan.

MONTHLY LIST OF WORKS PUBLISHED.

ANTIQUITIES.

An Historical Survey of the Ecclesiastical Antiquities of France, with a View to illustrate the Rise and Progress of Gothic Architecture in Europe. By the Rev. G. D. Whitinton, 4to. 11. 6s.

Greek marbles, brought from the shores of the Euxine, Archipelago, and Mediterranean, and deposited in the vestibule of the public library of the University of Cambridge. By Edward Daniel Clarke, LL.D. late Fellow of Jesus College, and Professor of Mineralogy in that University. Printed at Cambridge by order of the Syndics of the Press. Embellished with four beautiful plates, engraved by Tomkins, from Designs by Flaxman, royal 8vo. 5s. 6d. and on imperial paper with proof impressions of the plates, 10s. 6d.

CLASSICAL LITERATURE.

Virgil revindicated: being a free and candid Examination of Bishop Horsley's Tract on Virgil's Two Seasons of Honey; written in the year 1807, in a Letter to the Rev. Mr. Pentercross, of Wallingford. By Henry Clarke, LL.D. Professor of Astronomy and Experimental Philosophy at Marlowe, 4to. 4s.

GEOGRAPHY.

A System of Geography, ancient and modern. By J. Playfair, D.D. F.R.S. vol. II. 4to. 2l. 2s.

HISTORY

A Historical Review of the Commercial, Political, and Moral State of Hindoostan, from the earliest periods to the present time; the Rise and Progress of Christianity in the East, its present condition, and the means and probability of its future advancement. With an Introduction and Map illustrating the relative situation of the British Empire in the East. By the Rev. Robert Chaitfield, LL.B. Vicar of Chatteris, Cambridgeshire, 4to. £1. 16s.

The Rise and Fall of States and Empires; or, the Antiquities of Nations; more particularly of the Celtæ or Gauls. Containing great variety of Historical, Chronological, and Etymological Discoveries, many of them unknown both to the Greeks and Romans: with Tables of Greek, Latin, and Teutonic words, which are taken from the Celtic Language. By M. Pezron, 8vo. 7s. 6d.

The History of Don Francisco de Miranda's Attempt to effect a Revolution in South America; in a series of Letters. By James Biggs. Revised, corrected, and enlarged. To which are annexed, Sketches of the Life of Miranda, and Geographical Notices of the Caracacs, 8vo. 7s. 6d.

History of Brazil, comprising a Geographical Account of that country; together with a Narrative of the most remarkable events which have occurred there since its discovery. By A. Grant, N.D. 8vo. 8s. 6d.

The Modern History of Hindostan, Vol II. Part last: containing the History of India and the East-India Company, during the 17th and part of the 18th centuries, 4to. 11. 1s.

JURISPRUDENCE.

Nightingale *versus* Stockdale.—Report of the Trial in an Action for a Libel contained in a Review of the Portraiture of Methodism. Tried at Guildhall, March 11, 1809. 2s. 6d.

MEDICINE.

A Practical Materia Medica, in which the various articles are fully described, and divided into Classes and Orders, 12mo. 5s.

METAPHYSICS.

Metaphysical Essays; containing the Principles and fundamental Objects of the Science, with some Considerations upon the Human Mind, &c. By Richard Kirwan, Esq. LL.D. F.R.S. President of the Royal Irish Academy, &c. author of Elements of Mineralogy, Geological Essays, and other works, 8vo. 12s.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Gentleman's Library; being a Compendium of the Duties of Life in Youth and Manhood, 12mo. 5s.

The Spirit of English Wit; being an entertaining Budget of laughable Anecdotes, 12mo. 5s.

The Spirit of the Public Journals for 1808, 12mo. 7s.

Correspondence between the United States of America and Great Britain, 1s. 6d.

An Answer to the Challenge given by W. Blair, Esq. A.M. and published in Dr. Rees's Cyclopædia, where this gentleman has inserted a Cypher of his own invention, which is actually inscrutable without the Key. By M. Gage, 10s. 6d.

An Attempt to elucidate the Pernicious Consequences of a Deviation from the Principles of the Orders in Council, 2s. 6d.

The Principles of Life Assurance explained; together with new Plans of Assurance and Annuities. Adapted to the prudent of all classes, Civil and Military. By the Rock Life Assurance Company, 1s.

An Attempt to ascertain a Theory for determining the Value of Funded Property, 2s. 6d.

Ferdinand Vindicated, and Ministers Defended, 1s. 6d.

Strictures on the present Government, Civil, Military, and Political, of the British Possessions in India, 3s.

Ancient Indian Literature, illustrative of the Researches of the Asiatic Society, instituted in Bengal, January 15, 1804. 4to. 11. 5s.

NOVELS AND ROMANCES.

The Dominican, a Romance, of which the principal traits are taken from events relating to a family of distinction, which emigrated from France during the Revolution. By Capt. T. Williamson, Author of the Wild Sports of the East. 3 vols. 12mo. 15s.

The Four Slaves of Cythera; a Romance in Ten Cantos. By the Rev. Robert Bland, author of Edwy and Elgiva, and Sir Everard, 8vo. 9s.

Ella St. Lawrence; or, the Village of Selwood, and its inhabitants. By Mrs. Isaacs, Author of Wood Nymph, &c. 4 vols. 12mo. £1. 2s. Susan, 2 vols. 8s.

The Cottage of Merlin Vale, A Sketch on Improved Principles, interspersed with Pieces of Poetry. By J. Morington, 2 vols. 10s.

Hours of Affluence, and Days of Indigence. By Miss Byron, 2 vols. 11.

PHILOLOGY.

Latin Synonyms, with their different Significations and Examples taken from the best Latin Authors, by M. J. B. Gardin Dumesnil, Lat. Professor of Rhetoric in the College of Harcourt, and Principal of the College of Louis the Great, in the University of Paris. Translated into English, with Additions and Corrections, by the Rev. J. M. Gosset, 8vo. 15s.

POETRY.

The Muses' Bower, embellished with the Beauties of English Poetry; 4 vols. fc. 8vo. 11. 4s.

The Iliad of Homer, translated into English Blank Verse. By the Rev. James Morrice, A.M. Late Student of Christ Church, Oxford; Rector of Betshanger, in the County of Kent; 2 vols. 8vo. 11. 1s.

Poems, sacred to Love and Beauty, by Hugh Downman, M.D. 2 vols. fc. 8vo. 10s. 6d.

Poemata Selecta Italorum, qui seculo decimo sexto Latine scripserunt, nonnullis adnotationibus illustrata, post 8vo. 10s. 6d.

Gertrude of Wyoming, or the Pennsylvanian Cottage, and other Poems. By Thomas Campbell, Author of Pleasures of Hope, 4to. 11. 5s.

Soræ Ionice; a Poem, descriptive of the Ionian Islands and Part of the adjacent Coast of Greece: with a postscript, containing observations on the Roman or Modern Greek Language, as spoken in the Ionian Islands. By Waller Rodewell Wright, Esq. some time his Britannic Majesty's Consul General for the Republic of the Seven Islands, 8vo. 4s.

THEOLOGY.

A Series of Discourses on the Principles of Religious Belief, as connected with human happiness and improvement. By the Rev. R. Morhead, A.M. 8vo. 9s.

Treatises on the seventy years' captivity of the Jews, foretold by Jeremiah; and particularly of the seventy weeks prophecy of Daniel, the truth of which is at last demonstrated. With some remarks on a different subject of Scripture. By Rev. J. Thorold, Rector of Kencot, Oxon. 2s.

A Letter from a Country Clergyman to his Parishioners; in which are considered, a few of the Arguments and Practices of the Modern Dissenters. By the Rev. John Nance, M.A. Chaplain to the Earl of Oxford and Mortimer, Fellow of Worcester College, Oxford, &c. 1s. 6d.

Paganism and Christianity compared; in a Course of Lectures to the King's Scholars at Westminster, in the years 1806-7-8. By J. Ireland, D.D. 8vo. 10s. 6d.

An Inquiry into the Cause of the Holy Communion being so little attended. By T. Pennington, M.A. 1s. 6d.

A Sermon preached at Woburn Chapel, Feb. 8, 1809, being the Day appointed for a General Fast. By the Rev. W. Cockburn, A.M. 1s. 6d.

The State of the Established Church, in a Series of Letters to the Right Hon. S. Percival, 2s. 6d.

TRAVELS.

Travelling Sketches in Russia and Sweden, during the years 1805-8. By R. K. Porter, 2 vols. 4to. 51. 5s.

A Tour through Cornwall in the Autumn of 1808. By the Rev. R. Warner, 8vo. 9s.

BRITISH GEMS, MEDALS, ENGRAVINGS.

A series of political characters are being engraved upon gems by Mr. Brown, gem sculptor to the late Catherine II. and Paul of Russia. This artist has already commenced his interesting collection with the portraits of Colonel Wardle and Mr. Whitbread, who have honoured him with sittings for that purpose. We understand it is intended to furnish the public with impressions by means of Mr. Tassie's curious imitations of cameos and intaglios in enamel and paste, &c.

A silver medal, in commemoration of the Abolition of the Slave Trade, designed and executed by eminent artists, has been presented to the British Museum by some gentlemen who have had a quantity struck for the above purpose, both in silver and in bronze. On one side, is a portrait of William Wilberforce, Esq. M. P. from a model taken by his permission; surrounded with the words, "*William Wilberforce, M. P. the Friend of Africa.*" The Reverse of the medal represents BRITANNIA seated: she holds in her left hand a triple-sealed scroll, the solemn act of her legislature, by which the SLAVE TRADE was ABOLISHED. She is attended by WISDOM and JUSTICE, as her counsellors in that great national measure. Before her stands COMMERCE; who receives her commands to terminate for ever that iniquitous and most unchristian traffic: while an angel holds over her head a celestial crown, as the emblem of her virtuous conduct being approved by heaven. At the bottom are these words—"I have heard their cry." (Exod: 3. 7.)—Also, "*Slave Trade abolished 1807.*"

Early in next June, will be published, in large quarto, the first part of a new literary and embellished work, entitled the *Fine Arts of the English School*: comprising a series of highly-finished Engravings, from Paintings, Sculpture, and Architecture, by the most eminent English Artists. Each subject accompanied by an ample portion of historical, descriptive, critical, or biographical letterpress. This first part will contain five engravings: viz.—1. A Portrait of John Dunning, Lord Ashburton, from a picture by Sir Joshua Reynolds.—2. An Historical Composition, representing Thetis bearing the Armour to Achilles; West, P.R.A.—3. A View of Lord Mansfield's Monument in Westminster Abbey-Church; Flaxman, R. A.—4. An Elevation of the West Front of St. Paul's Cathedral Church, London.—5. A Plan of the Substructure of the same Building; Sir Christopher Wren; both drawn by Mr. James Elmes, Architect.

1. Two editions will be printed, both in large quarto, but on papers of different qualities and dimensions: the smaller will be

Elephant, which makes a quarto page of fourteen inches by twelve: the larger on Atlas paper, making a quarto page of seventeen inches by thirteen. These will correspond in size with "The British Gallery of Pictures," publishing by Longman and Co.—Small edition £1. 1s. per number, large £1. 11s. 6d.

2. Each Part will contain four finished Engravings, or three that are finished, and two of slighter execution. These will be accompanied by appropriate and ample descriptions, &c. occupying from twelve to twenty-four pages of letter-press in every Number. The Prints will be engraved in such different styles, as appear to be best adapted to the respective subjects. Those representative of Portraits, Historical Pictures, and Sculpture, will be executed in that mixed style of engraving, which unites and blends the dot with the stroke; whereby the appearance of flesh, and drapery in pictures, as also marble, &c. will be carefully imitated. The Architectural Subjects will be engraven wholly in the line, or stroke style.

3. Each Number is intended to contain an illustrative print, or prints, from the respective subjects of Painting, Architecture, and Sculpture. In the first class will be given a Portrait of an eminent English Character, from an esteemed painting; also an historical or fancy picture selected from the most approved specimens of the English School. Of Architectural Subjects, one or two prints will be given, representing either Elevations, Plans, or Perspective Views, of the most admired public edifices of England: in this department of the work, it is intended to furnish such a series of plates, with appropriate letter press, as shall fully explain the design and construction, as also the history, of the respective buildings. Under the class of Sculpture, each Number will present one finished print, or two in outline, from some approved specimen by a British Artist.

4. The Literary department will be supplied by such Gentlemen as are best calculated, by professional study, erudition, or taste, to furnish the most interesting and satisfactory information on the respective subjects of Painting, Architecture, Sculpture, Biography, &c. It is indeed the intention of the Proprietors to produce a work that shall be calculated to satisfy the English Artist, gratify the Connoisseur, interest the discriminating part of the Literati, both at home and abroad, and collectively exhibit the mental and professional talents of our countrymen.

5. A limited Number of copies of the portraits and historical prints, will be worked in colours, and finished by the pencil, so as to imitate the style of colouring and effect of the original pictures. Twenty-five sets of proofs will be worked on India paper. The prices will be specified with the first Number.

PROPOSITA PHILANTHROPICA.

Homo sum :—

Humani nihil a me alienum puto.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIANITY AMONG THE JEWS :

Formed Aug. 4, 1808 ; established March 1, 1809.

We have, on various occasions, expressed our respect for the Jewish nation, the family of that honourable patriarch, "the friend of God." Every effort made to instruct and enlighten that people meets with our hearty good wishes. We trust, that more real advantage will accrue to them from the private exertions of a few individuals in our nation, than from all the consistories, sanhedrims, and other ostentatious proceedings on the Continent.—Not that we mean to deny, that the condition of the Jews on the continent needed amelioration; but we mean to express our confidence in the good sense, as well as piety, of our countrymen. To that good sense we beg leave to recommend the hints which have already been, and will occasionally continue to be, thrown out on the subject of this peculiar people, in the Panorama; together with the inferences fairly to be deduced from the consideration, that hitherto no endeavours to effect the conversion of the Jews have been successful: to what can this be owing?

This society has lately published, under the title of *עיר מקלט* or City of Refuge, an Address from their Committee, wherein they observe, that "although it is true that we cannot point out the exact time when all Israel shall be saved, yet it is certain, that a remnant is to be called in our day."

"It is granted, that the *preaching* of the Gospel is the first and greatest instrument in the conversion of sinners; yet those who are best acquainted with the situation of the Jews will freely acknowledge, that in promoting their conversion, other means are (humanly speaking) absolutely necessary. Who can reasonably expect, that a Jew will either attend upon the preaching of the Gospel, or send a child to a day school, to receive Christian education, whilst the old law "that if any man did confess, that Jesus was the Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue," is more rigidly observed than ever. The word of God assures us, that the fear of man, on account of this law, prevented many of the Pharisees, of the rulers, and of the rich, from making an open profession, notwithstanding their conviction of the truth of Christ's Messiahship. The united testimony of history and experience, since the times of the Apostles, clearly evidences, that the fear of man is still a great snare, especially to the poor and ignorant

tutes by far the greatest part of that unhappy nation. To remove this apparently insurmountable obstacle, is one great design of the London Society.

amongst the Jews, and which class consti-

"The means by which they humbly hope to accomplish this most desirable object are such as these:—To establish a school, that they may be able to receive children wholly from their parents, and bestow upon them education, board, and clothing. To connect with this a day school, out of which vacancies in the former may be filled up; to put out girls and boys as apprentices; to find employment, if possible, for those who are able to work; to visit and relieve the sick; to distribute tracts, &c.

"Amongst other ideas which present themselves, the London Society cannot but refer to the prejudice of education; which may be considered as the main obstacle opposed to them; it is well known that this exists and operates in the minds of the more respectable and better informed Jews, to a sufficient extent to prevent them from attending to and embracing the doctrines of Christianity, although they have discernment enough to ridicule the absurdity of Rabbinical reveries, and are living in the open and daily violation of the law of Moses. The state of this description of persons is truly awful; and the London Society cannot but lament with astonishment, that the advocates of Christianity, in and out of the established church, have paid so little attention to the subject, as to leave the Jews in possession of a modern and well written publication, (highly popular among the Hebrew nation at large) without the slightest attempt to expose its errors. There is every reason to believe, that amongst the class of individuals above alluded to, there are many whose minds are sufficiently enlightened by education to receive and imbibe the truths of Christianity, were they forcibly and affectionately appealed to.

"It is therefore in the contemplation of the London Society to endeavour to excite a spirit of inquiry amongst those who may be considered as the heads of the Jewish people, and by so doing they have considerable expectation of removing the greatest difficulty they have to encounter with the lower orders; viz. "the fear of man" above alluded to and illustrated.

"The committee takes leave to subjoin a few lines from a letter lately published, to the Parisian Sanhedrim by an English Israelite, page 32. "The most striking and material difference between the Christian nations of Europe with whom we are mixed, and ourselves, is chiefly attributable to our more humble attainments of human knowledge: nor has the poor Jew, even in this truly hospitable kingdom, the same opportunities as others,

to obtain both early and profitable instruction.

Our charity schools are by far too limited in number, and resources for the admission of even a third part of our indigent youth, whose necessities, arising from the poverty of their parents, frequently compel them to turn out to seek a livelihood at those tender years which *should* have been devoted to some of the elementary branches of education. Thus are they cut off, as it were, in the bud, from acquiring the first steps towards respectable situations and employments; and which, in a long course of life, unless fortune in some shape befriend them, *cannot fail* most severely to be felt and lamented. Ignorance, which is everywhere the root of error, and not unfrequently of the vilest depravities in human nature, has, indeed, sunk but too many into a state of the lowest mental debasement; while, at the same time, it has only served to cover them with rags and infamy."—At page 34, the same author very justly observes: "How many old clothes men, venders of oranges, slippers, and shoe-strings, would this day be found following some more useful and industrious occupation, had the friendly Genius of Education shed her benignant influence over their youthful days! Had they been taught some profitable mechanical art or trade! And public prisons and streets would not exhibit such frequent scenes of their profligacy and wretchedness."

Every person subscribing annually one guinea or more is a member. Any person subscribing ten guineas or more is a member for life; also any executor who pays a legacy of twenty guineas or upwards.

The committee consists of twelve members beside the treasurer and secretary; meets on the first Friday in every month, at the King's Head tavern in the Poultry (until a school-house be provided) at five o'clock in the evening.

Proper persons visit the sick weekly or oftener, to inquire into their circumstances and situation, and report at the monthly meeting.

Every visitor is at liberty to afford temporary relief to the amount of 2s. 6d.

General meetings on Whit-Monday, and December 26th.

The society has published the first of a series of tracts addressed to the Jewish nation, entitled "Deborah to the Remnant of Israel." In a note to which it is added, that "at this school, no undue influence will be exerted to compel Jewish children to become Christians; but they will be anxiously instructed how to judge for themselves, and suitable books will be given to such as prove themselves trust-worthy. Jewish parents are also informed, that the London Society intend to bind out apprentices to proper masters,

such children as may be disposed to learn useful trades; and employment will be provided for the industrious."

The Jews are also respectfully informed, that the whole of the Old Testament *תורה נביאים וכתובים* in English, may be had of Mr. Frey, 31, Mount Street, Whitechapel Road, at the low price of two shillings.

This society has opened a lecture to the Jews at the meeting-house, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe; to be conducted by Rev. Mr. Frey, on Lord's Day evenings at six o'clock. They also intend to form a library of such books as particularly relate to Jewish literature. They will be much obliged to any person possessing such works, and willing to dispose of them, to apply to the Rev. Mr. Frey.

The half-yearly general meeting of the subscribers will be held on May 22d, being Whit-Monday. Two sermons will be preached; that in the morning by Rev. Thomas Fry, minister of the Lock Chapel, at St. Clement Danes in the Strand. Service at eleven o'clock: Mr. Frey will preach in the evening at six o'clock. Collections will be made.

The object of the London Society being solely the conversion of the Jews, they trust that their efforts will be aided by the liberality of Christians of all denominations.

Subscriptions received by S. Fearn, Esq. Spital Square, treasurer; Mr. J. Fox, 54, Lombard Street, secretary; Rev. W. Gurney, A. B. rector of St. Clement Danes, Cecil Street; Rev. J. Wilcox, minister of Ely chapel, Charlotte Street; Rev. J. S. C. F. Frey, minister to the Jews, 31, Mount Street, Whitechapel Road; Mr. A. Black, Leadenhall Street; and by the committee.

CHIMNEY SWEEPERS.

It has not been because we were insensible, or inattentive to the sufferings of this too much neglected class of the community, that we have omitted to notice the exertions made on their behalf by the benevolent society of which they form the immediate objects; but because, we have not yet perceived that decided plan for the amelioration of their condition, which promised to be of extensive and permanent utility. The substitutes for climbing boys, have answered only partially. They sometimes succeed extremely well; at other times, they fail when most wanted.

We are altogether dissatisfied with the intricacies that are suffered to be practised in the construction of some chimnies; and we are not seldom at a loss to discover the reason of that indolence which withholds architects of abilities from investigating this branch of their art, scientifically. In the present cultivated state of philosophical spirit among us,

we deem it a reproach to men of liberal study, that any thing of such great importance, and permanent use or disadvantage, as the construction of a chimney, should be left without principles to guide it: and that the chapter of accidents, the hit or miss luck of the moment, should be confided in for the accommodation of a chimney secure against smoking, and completely safe for the climbing boys.

Till something better is done, we cannot but approve of the attempts made to render the condition of the climbing boys more comfortable; and therefore we recommend the following agreement, which has been circulated by public advertisement at Sheffield, to the attention of those who have so kindly patronized these sons of suffering in London. The plan will speak for itself: improvements, so far as practicable, according to local convenience, may tend to its general, if not universal adoption.

One of the principal objects with "the Committee for superseding the necessity of employing climbing boys," &c. in Sheffield, has, ever since its establishment, been, to ameliorate the condition of those still employed as climbers.

Though the "act of parliament for the regulation of chimney sweepers and their apprentices," has been continually violated in almost every one of its clauses, yet the committee thought as they were more desirous of preventing abuses in future than of inflicting penalties for past ones, that the best mode of proceeding would be to draw up a series of resolutions, conformable to the spirit of the act, though less strict in reality than its regulations, and submit them for the voluntary adoption of the master chimney sweepers.

The following resolutions were accordingly drawn up, and approved by the magistrates; and the master chimney sweepers, after having had them properly explained, very readily and cheerfully agreed to sign them.

It has been judged by the committee necessary to publish them, in order that the public may not require any chimnies to be swept at improper hours, and that they may also be enabled to lodge information should they ever witness the violation of any of the resolutions.—As these regulations considerably abridge the usual working hours, and as they require the boys to be better lodged, clothed, and fed, it is presumed that the public will not think the advanced prices, intended to be charged for sweeping in future, higher than what will be necessary to enable the masters to comply with the regulations; since they assert, with an appearance of truth, "that the very low price for which they have hitherto swept, compelled them to treat their boys with less indulgence, and exact from them more labour than they otherwise would have wished to have done."

Copy.—We, the master chimney sweepers, resident in Sheffield, whose names are underwritten, do agree to the following resolutions:

—I. That we will not take any boy as an apprentice under the age of *eight years*, nor will we bind any one to continue longer in servitude than till he is *sixteen years* of age.—

II. That we will not send out any boy to work before *four o'clock* in the morning, in summer, nor before *five* in winter, in the town.—III. That we will not permit any boy to go out to climb a chimney, after *twelve o'clock* at noon; nor will we suffer our apprentices, or boys employed by us, to seek work, or to be any way engaged in our business out of doors, after *five o'clock* in the afternoon in summer, nor after *four* in winter.—IV. That each boy shall have a *good breakfast*, before he leaves home in the morning; a *good dinner* between the hours of twelve and two o'clock, at noon; and a *good supper* between the hours of five and seven o'clock in the evening.—V.

That every two boys shall be allowed one good bed, with sufficient covering, and they shall be allowed at least *eight hours* rest in each night.—VI. That we will provide every boy, with decent and sufficient warm clothing, as a sweeping dress, including a pair of good shoes, to be worn always when he is on duty; also a suitable cap, having a plate in front, with his master's name and place of abode engraved on it.—VII. That over and above the sweeping dress we will provide for each boy a complete suit of good clothes, including linen, hat, shoes, and stockings on every Easter Sunday, and that he shall appear in the same before the committee for bettering the condition of climbing boys, &c. on the Monday following, between the hours of twelve and one o'clock at noon, at the Cutlers' Hall, or some other convenient place, and they shall be permitted to dine there, or elsewhere, on that day, at the committee's expence.—VIII.

That we will not, on any occasion, lend out our boys to each other, or to any other persons in the trade.—IX. That we do engage on every Lord's Day, to send our apprentices, and boys employed by us, to some Sunday school approved by the aforesaid committee, and also to divine service with the rest of the children who attend the same school.

Signed by the following master chimney sweepers, in the presence of the committee, viz. MIC. MELLON, GEO. RIPPON, WM. PEARCE, J. RODGERS, and J. BETTS

Sheffield, March 24, 1809.

SOCIETY FOR SUPPRESSION OF VICE, AT YORK.

The annual report of the Society concludes as follows:—

“The committee cannot but hope, that notwithstanding the temporary discouragements

which have been frankly stated, considerable good has been effected. Several houses of a loose description in different parts of the city, exclusive of the two before noticed, have been discontinued. In one spot particularly, which had been notoriously marked by this species of iniquity, few, if any, suspected characters remain; and, what is of still more consequence, the number of nightly street-walkers is generally admitted to be much lessened. Another circumstance deserving of notice, with respect to disorderly houses, is, that many creditable inhabitants, who before the existence of the Society, were annoyed by these haunts of riot and infamy, but were disheartened from seeking redress on account of the expense and trouble attendant on such proceedings, are now encouraged to come forward and contribute their information and their aid, although with the certain prospect of incurring the enmity of the vicious. From all these circumstances, the Committee are persuaded, that if the moderate and legitimate endeavours of the Society shall receive that general sanction and support which it may reasonably expect, extensive beneficial effects will follow; consequently, no laboured recommendation of theirs will be necessary, to induce every member and friend of this Institution to persevere in the prosecution of its laudable purpose.

23d Feb. 1809.

W. GRAY, Chairman.”

This may be taken in connection with remarks on the subject of the prevention of prostitution in our last number, page 39.

NEW RUPTURE SOCIETY,

For the relief of poor persons, of both sexes, afflicted with herniary complaints and prolapses:—Ordered, “That public notice be given to parochial officers, superintendents of hospitals, and the conductors of other charitable institutions, that the benefits of this society are extended to all parts of the kingdom; exact descriptions of the cases, with proper measurements of the patients, being sent by subscribers (post paid) to Mr. Blair, surgeon of the Institution, No. 69, Great Russell Street, Bloomsbury.”

35, Red Lion Square.

J. MILLER,

Secretary.

Every contributor of one guinea per annum, as well as every life governor, is entitled to recommend two patients in the year, requiring single trusses; or one patient requiring a double truss; and a similar privilege is extended, in the like proportion, to subscribers of larger sums.

Subscriptions and donations are received by Messrs. Henry Hoare and Co. the treasurers, Fleet Street; Hankey and Co. bankers, Fenchurch Street; Fuller, Chatters, and Co. bankers, Lombard Street; Ransom and Co. bankers, Pall Mall; or by James Crump, collector, No. 15, Gloucester Street, Queen Square, of whom may be had the printed plan and regulations gratis.

ANIMALS' FRIEND.

Mrs. Jordan left town yesterday, for Bath. Her son, Lieut. Fitzclarence, of the 10th Dragoons, came to town on Friday, from Brighton, to take leave of her, previous to his departure for the Continent, and performed the journey of *fifty-four miles*, in a post-chaise and four, in *little more than four hours*. This extraordinary expedition was, in a great measure, induced by the circumstance of his having given *half-a-guinea to each driver, at every stage*.—*The Observer, Sunday, April 9, 1899.*

. The extravagant liberality exercised towards the post boys that is described in this paragraph (which has been copied from a Sunday paper,) for the humane purpose of destroying their master's horses with all possible speed, is surely another glaring proof, amongst the many daily exhibited on the roads and in the streets of the metropolis, of the necessity of Legislative interference on behalf of these unfortunate animals. The historiographer of this heroic achievement has not informed us whether it was distinguished by any other mark of cruelty than by merely driving the poor horses at the rate of 13 miles an hour!!!

DIDASCALIA.

DRURY LANE.

The Drury-lane company, now performing at the Lyceum, in the Strand, introduced on Friday, April 21, a new piece called *Grieving's a Folly*.—It relates a double story of grief, one part imaginary and the other fictitious. The former represents a recluse, mourning the imaginary seduction of his wife, who is finally restored to him in all her purity; while the latter displays the ambition of a *ci-devant* tailor, Sir Oliver Cypress, knight, who in order to obtain a sentimental reputation affects to be half distracted at the loss of his wife, and watches her picture night and day in a room hung with black.

If we cannot praise the writer of this comedy (who is said to be Mr. Lee) for its originality, we must at least compliment him on his extensive reading and memory;—his retention has been such as to enable him to make very free with a variety of authors, and of some of those characters that have lately appeared amusing to the public, which he has completely "disfigured to make them pass for his own;" but they are so numerous that a *catalogue raisonné* would swell this article greatly beyond our convenience—however

amusing it might be to our readers to peruse historical documents of such petit larcenies.

Waiving his claims to originality, we must do him the justice to acknowledge that he has not followed any of his models in their vulgarisms and wretched puns—and his language is certainly more gentlemanly than allows us to suppose him guilty of thrusting in those oaths which one of the actors so liberally used, in exhibiting what his panegyrists dignify by the name of *chaste* acting.

His style is perfectly unaffected, although the audience did not much relish the serious part: that by occasional heaviness, seemed now and then to overpower them with a disorder very frequently caught at new plays; we mean the *yawns*—which of course prevented them from enjoying the author's real merits; for, as the learned and venerable Bacon sayeth, "in yawning the inner parchment of the ear is extended, and when a man *yawneth*, he cannot hear so well."—However, upon the whole, the comedy was received with applause, to which the blunders, though hacknied, of a well-meaning Irishman, a little contributed.

Respecting the moral of this piece—it is truly *immoral*!—when we see such a character as Sir Oliver Cypress smilingly pardoned, and intreated to dinner not only by the young lady herself whom he would have seduced, but by her very parents;—yet the author has had the assurance at the same time to represent them as possessed of the most exalted virtue!

We cannot conceive any excuse for an author who thus tramples on morality and describes such serious evils as mere *bagatelles*—it is gilding the pill of vice beyond endurance, and is grossly in unison with what was nightly exhibited in the lobbies and saloons at our two late London theatres—it is making literature subservient to pandarism; and clearing the way for fashionable and high-titled prostitutes. —Nor can we approve of the light manner in which the awful and melancholy duty of paying respect to departed friends is treated with regard to funeral ceremonies, notwithstanding the author may quote Sir Richard Steele's authority. Plotting the seduction of a young woman in a room hung with the paraphernalia of mortality, is certainly a new idea, and worthy the degradation of modern comedy. It has been hinted to us in palliation, that great allowances must be made for the exceptionable parts of this piece, because the author has gratuitously presented it to the poor players. Although we are taught that "charity covereth a multitude of sins," yet we think that these sins are decidedly of a kind, which the most extensive charity need not, and will not, include in the multitude which is to be covered.

EULOGIUM OF M. DE LA FONTAINE,
BY M. DE LA HARPE.

[Concluded from page 1160 of Vol. V.]

When posterity passes judgment on those writers who have a claim to its admiration ;—at the moment when that homage, which is due to their genius, is about to be extended to their personal character, how often does truth appear as an accuser, and arrest the pen of the panegyrist ! This may be a source of consolation and of vengeance for envious spirits ; but it is an afflicting consideration for noble minds. How pleasing it is to love those whom we admire ! The language of praise is an expression of pleasure, and how painful is the necessity to restrain it ! What a melancholy office it is to condemn him as a man, to whom we feel so many acknowledgements as a writer ! But such is the state of things. Whoever aspires to renown gives, as it were, a public notification to the spirit of censure ; and how rare the fortune to escape it ! yes, how seldom it happens that inexorable justice does not leave a stain on the robe of honour, with which Posterity clothes the names of illustrious men. What pleasure, then must I experience at this moment when I can say, every one loved the man on whom I bestow my praise ; no one will attempt to diminish the honours which I render to his memory ; no accuser will appear against him ; when I scatter flowers on his tomb, the hand of the detractor will not interrupt that pious, that grateful office ; for this most delightful writer, was the best of men.

I do not say that La Fontaine had not the imperfections of human nature ; but he had none of those vices which dishonour it, and he possessed many of the virtues which adorn it. His contemporaries have transmitted to us the general and established opinion of the goodness of his character, without specifying any particular example. It appears to have been rather an acknowledged and habitual quality which manifested itself in every thing, and displayed itself individually in nothing. To confirm this opinion in his favour, it may be justly observed, that his poetic talent, which afforded such facilities to a vindictive spirit, and which is so generally abused by those who possess it, was but in one solitary instance a hostile weapon in his hands. He wrote a satire against Lully ; and if it should be asked why I mention such a circumstance in my eulogium of him, I answer, because I must tell the truth. Besides, this satire is the work of a good man, and displays the native candour of La Fontaine. He relates with his habitual simplicity how the Florentine duped him, which, he says, required no extraordinary art or uncommon fallacy.

VOL. VI. [Lit. Pan. May 1809.]

Je me sens né pour être en butte aux méchans tours, Vienne encore un trompeur ; Je ne tarderai guère.

Lully had engaged him, by repeated entreaties, and very much against his inclinations, to compose the words of an opera, of which, after a long succession of excuses, he made no use. The fabulist, who possessed a very independent mind, felt, on the occasion, and perhaps for the first time, some degree of ill-humour, at having been prevailed upon to engage in a work which was altogether unpleasant to him, and made a dupe of into the bargain ;—he consigned his ill-humour to his verses, to which he consigned everything.

If it should have been in consequence of this resentment, and to place in an odious point of view the countrymen of Lully, that he wrote the comedy of the Florentine, so full of gaiety and true comic character, as Le Sage is said to have composed his *Turcaret*, to revenge himself of a financier ;—it was that kind of resentment which belongs exclusively to superior talent, and the only example of it with which he can be reproached.

The candour of his mind was equal to the goodness of his heart. The rectitude of his conduct, and the ingenuous character of his discourse, could only be equalled by the charming simplicity of his writings. It appeared that reflection and reserve, so necessary to the greater part of mankind who have ever something to conceal, were not requisite in a mind like his, so frank, so open, and so prompt in all its thoughts and emotions : for of La Fontaine it might be affirmed,—that he never said any thing that ought to give offence.

He was naturally absent ; and if he were accustomed to be alone in the solitude of society, he was probably deficient in those powers of conversation which, if they do not advance the possessor of them to celebrity, conduct him frequently to fortune. It is, however, of little consequence to posterity whether or not La Fontaine possessed them. But I do not mean to follow the example of those injudicious panegyrists who decry the qualities which are not to be found in the character of the men whom they celebrate. Many eminent writers are known to have distinguished their conversation with the same brilliance which is found in their works, while others of equal knowledge have been deficient in that quality. Boileau, in society, was austere and rude ; and Corneille was embarrassed and said but little ; while Fenelon and Racine were full of urbanity, of grace, and of eloquence. These differences attach to the character, and not to the degree of genius. An essential quality to shine and please in conversation, arises from the disposition to render one's self interesting to all around us.—The groundwork of La Fontaine's character was a profound indifference for a great num-

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ber of objects ; a kind of philosophy, which has, at least, as many advantages as inconveniencies, and approaches very near to happiness.

Some allowance may be claimed for his absence of mind, since it was equally evident in his own domestic concerns. Never did any man trouble himself less about them. This negligence, which destroyed by degrees his moderate fortune, proceeded, it is true, from great disinterestedness ; a quality which always marks a noble mind. Once a year he paid a visit to his wife who had retired to Châteaun-Thierry, when he always sold a part of his patrimony which he shared with her.

It appears, then, that he had a wife with whom, so remarkable as he was for the sweetness and regularity of temper, he could not live, and a woman too who had both wit and beauty. The wife of Moliere possessed both wit and beauty, yet she made him unhappy. But the philosopher La Fontaine, more wise than the philosopher Moliere, who was all his life dotingly fond and extremely jealous of a wife who rendered him miserable ;—La Fontaine, considering his repose as the first of blessings, left his country house, where he could not enjoy that tranquillity without which life is insupportable. The uneasiness, which this separation produced in his mind, was softened by the consolations of friendship. He well deserved to have friends, and he found them, among the first literary characters of his time : at court he had not only protectors but benefactors, which is not always the same, and among them were the Contis, the Vendomes, and, above all, the illustrious Duke of Burgundy, the pupil of Fenelon, and who proved himself worthy of his preceptor. It was the protecting kindness of this prince which contributed to keep him in France, when, on being deprived of the asylum which he had enjoyed for twenty years with Madame de la Sabliere, by the death of that lady, he was on the point of accepting that which was offered by the Dutchess of Mazarin, who had retired with St. Evremont to England. But how is it possible to name Madame de la Sabliere without blessing the memory of that excellent friend of La Fontaine, who appeared to consider it not merely as a pleasure but a duty, to banish from him every care and to supply all his wants. Admirable woman ! It was beneath your roof that he composed his best works ; and posterity will join your name to his.

Qu'un ami véritable est une douce chose !

Il cherche vos besoins au fond de votre cœur.

I feel a pleasure in the idea that La Fontaine, when he wrote these lines, thought of Madame de la Sabliere ; and they, with the verses which follow, evidently prove, that

this man, who was so indifferent about the generality of things which torment the rest of mankind, was alive to the sentiments of friendship. It may be said that poetry is a creature of the imagination : but surely there is poetry which is the offspring of the soul ! This is a truth which the writings of La Fontaine fully prove to me ; and if they were not sufficient, I shall repeat a well-known circumstance, that forms the highest eulogium which two friends ever bestowed on each other. Soon after the death of Madame la Sabliere, M. d'Hervart met La Fontaine in the street : “ I was on my way”, said the former, “ to intreat you to take up your abode at my house.”—“ I was going thither,” said the latter.

But we must not forget to name among his benefactors, the generous, unfortunate, Fouquet, who was indeed a man of a noble mind, and deserved to be beloved : nor can we pass unnoticed the signal gratitude of the poet, which will perhaps be considered as more rare than the generosity of a minister. At the same time, many men of letters might be named, both in the past and the present age, whose attachment for their friends and protectors has resisted the most powerful motives to desert them ; and who, occupied with the pursuits of literary fame, have scorned to debase themselves by yielding to the allurements of interest or ambition. At the distressing period, when Fouquet saw himself abandoned by the crowd of his dependants, when it appeared to be a disgrace even to have known him, two men of letters employed their talents in his defence. Pelisson wrote his eloquent pleadings ; and La Fontaine that affecting elegy in which he demands pardon for Fouquet, and dares to tell the king that he ought to grant it. Some degree of courage was assuredly necessary, publicly to contradict the opinion and oppose the anger of Louis XIV. But I am fully persuaded that La Fontaine, when he made his elegy, did not feel that he was manifesting his courage when he was performing that act of gratitude.

It was subsequent to the disgrace of Fouquet, that he became groom of the chamber to that princess whom eloquence and poetry have combined to celebrate,—Henrietta of England, whose death filled France with lamentation, and still continues to call forth the strongest emotions in the Oration of Bossuet. If La Fontaine, like other men, had encouraged the dreams of ambition, the death of his royal mistress soon dissipated them ; and I am not disposed to think that they were regretted by him. It was at this epocha of his life, that he resigned himself to the care of a beneficent friendship, which, to a man of his character, was far superior to fortune.

As far as it is possible for us to form a right

judgment of happiness, which deceives our thoughts, as it escapes our projects, the life of La Fontaine might boast no ordinary portion of it. It is a most pleasing persuasion, which my mind has imbibed, as I proceeded in forming this eulogium, that he was happy; and that his happiness was derived both from his character and his works. Possessed of that genuine modesty, which is not, as it cannot be an unconsciousness of our superiority, but an amiable precaution not to let that superiority wound the feelings of others, he is known never to have been troubled with enemies. Indeed, it could not be otherwise. The simplicity of his manners was such as to calm every emotion of envy: and as he pretended to nothing, he was pardoned the merit of deserving every thing.

La Fontaine was one of the small number of writers who derived more happiness from their talents than from their success. Without being insensible to the desire of fame, he did not devote himself to the attainment of it. He obtained the suffrages of the Academy in preference to Boileau, who was favoured with the notice of Louis XIV. before him. Posterity, however, in its distribution of rank, appears to have adopted the opinion of the Academy rather than that of the monarch. Passing his days in the bosom of friendship; with a mind formed to feel the delight of receiving benefits without bearing the weight of them; free from inquietude, and untroubled by ambition or lassitude; incapable of envy or any degrading passion, he delighted in contemplating nature and representing her with his poetic pencil; he revelled in his own ideas and sentiments and heightened the pleasure by diffusing them in the world: in short, he was well with himself, and had but little occasion to apply to others; and while his years run on, almost unperceived by him, old age at length arrived, like the evening of a fine day.

There appears throughout his works a serene mind and a contented spirit. He himself says

A beaucoup de plaisirs, je mêle un peu de gloire.

This epitaph is well known, and is that of an honest man; but who would suppose it to be that of a poet? He divides his life into two parts, sleeping, and doing of nothing, *dormir et ne rien faire*. So that his works were nothing more to him than pleasing dreams. What a happy man he must be, who in composing such beautiful things, thought he was passing his life in doing nothing.

Although since his death, his reputation has increased in the opinion of mankind, he enjoyed during his life the admiration of foreigners. Certain English gentlemen offered to secure to him an handsome mainte-

nance, when Madame de Mazarin invited him to England. He was, without doubt, highly flattered by those offers; but we acknowledge our obligations to the Duke de Bourgogne, that, in the reign of Louis XIV, England was not allowed to provide for La Fontaine.

With respect to the Sex, he always manifested the utmost regard to them, as he always practised the most attentive complaisance towards women, and though, in his writings, he has frequently exercised his pleasantry on them, in his conversation with them, he never failed to observe the most cautious and delicate behaviour. His manners were those of the purest mind, and appeared to be governed by a rigid sense of decorum. It appears in many parts of his works that he had experienced both the pleasures and the pains of love; but the natural sweetness and calm temperature of his disposition was not disturbed by them. No kind of excess was to be found in the character of La Fontaine.

One circumstance alone seemed at any time to interrupt his tranquillity, and this exception was most honourable to him; it was when any one came to ask his counsel or to beg his assistance in the hour of misfortune; he would then take the most tender interest in their concerns; nor would he refrain from tears, while he listened to the tale of sorrow. This man so inattentive to his own affairs, would manifest uncommon sagacity in disembarassing the concerns of another. It was the unfortunate only to whom he gave a right to trouble his repose; and he never employed the spirit of discretion but for the interest of others.

Though he was disposed to be indolent, he neglected not any branches of science, though not naturally associated to his peculiar talents. He studied with his friend Bernier the principles of Descartes and Gassendi, and the well known question respecting the mechanism of the brute creation, is very ingeniously discussed in one of his fables, addressed to Madame de la Sabliere. He occupied himself, it is true, with works of imagination; but he was not inattentive to the philosophy of the age in which he lived.

The disease with which he was attacked two years before his death produced an entire revolution in his mind; and he who, throughout his life, appeared to have been conscious of no crime, delivered himself up to an expiating austerity.

From this time he suffered a continual state of languor; and he died offering up to God the sacrifice of a humble, resigned and repentant heart. His remains were consigned to the same sepulchre, in which Moliere had been entombed, as if the same des-

tiny which had assimilated their birth, should unite them in the grave.

His memory has been honoured in his posterity. His family, which still resides in the place where he was born, has had frequent reason to consider it as a blessing that they descended from him. That excellent magistrate, M. D'Armenonville, will ever be remembered with honour, who was the first to propose that the descendants of La Fontaine should be exempt from the payment of public impositions, as he had paid an adequate tribute to France, by leaving it his writings and his name.

It is however to be lamented that the bounties of Louis XIV., so profusely bestowed on foreigners, were withheld from our poet; but, when he was no more, the princes and princesses of the blood royal, thought it a duty to charge themselves with the education of the niece and nephew of La Fontaine. On such occasions as these, will not genius exclaim: "It is not for me to expect much from men; it is for them to expect much from me. When I shall have finished my career of difficulty and danger; when I shall have arrived at the end of my course; future generations will gather round my tomb, and exclaim, "he was a great character." They will then search after me in the monuments which I have left behind, not to spy out their faults but to illustrate their beauties. My descendants will have honours bestowed on them, which were refused to me. I am fed only with hopes; and I do not scatter my seed, in the confidence that I shall reap an harvest. What reward then am I to expect? I shall do good when I am no more. A sentiment of virtue expressed in my works may sometimes produce a virtuous action: an expression of my sensibility may sometimes draw tears down the cheek of those in whose bosoms there are tender hearts. I shall console the afflicted; I shall soften the obdurate; and the envy which now endeavours to lessen my fame and my recompence, will not be able to deprive me of the benefits which I shall leave behind me, and of the gratitude of future ages."

. The works of M. de la Harpe have furnished us with several; articles one of the most prominent of which, is his extremely curious account of M. Cazotte's predictions as to the fate of the principal leaders of the French Revolution, and of the Royal Family of France (given in our first number); the illustrations of which were continued through a series of numbers, and disclosed a variety of anecdotes not before published. For *Memoirs of this writer*, vide Vol. II. pp. 98, 321, 545, 769; for his *Eloge of Racine*, vide Vol. III. p. 1261; for his interesting *History of the Menzikoff family*, vide Vol. I. p. 321; his *Eulogium on Fenelon* will be found in the same volume, p. 769.

OF PERSIA, AND OF THE WAHABEES.

Mr. Adair's late letters contain much information respecting Persian politics. A letter from a gentleman in his suite states, that the approach of the Wahabees eastward had occasioned much sensation in Persia. At the date of the latest accounts they were in great force at Anah, and it was supposed that they intended to advance to the Persian frontier. A body of troops had, in consequence, been marched to Korrinabad, and the French officers at Teheran, who had been very active on the occasion, had offered their services to conduct the expedition.

A number of Russian officers had lately arrived at Teflis and Suram, in Georgia, and others were expected to follow. This circumstance became known to Mr. Adair by the accidental interception of a dispatch from the French ambassador to the Persian court, General Gardanne, who expresses much suspicion that the object of the Russian mission was intended to counteract the French influence in Persia.

We further learn, that the chief of the Wahabees has sent a confidential agent to some of the native princes on the Gulph, who are in amity with the English, with a view to ascertain the sentiments of our government in regard to him, and to create facilities to direct overtures. This powerful insurgent is said to have a well-equipped force for the mode of warfare in which he is so successfully engaged, and has had the address to win over to his views several Turkish and Persian officers of talent and influence.

The attempt to introduce European tactics into the Persian army has created great discontent and insubordination amongst the troops, particularly the mode of punishment. A French officer of rank, who was particularly active in enforcing the new system, had been murdered. A Turkish envoy has been dispatched to the Shah, on a secret mission, and as he was sent by the same party which brought about the peace with England, his object is supposed to be intended to counteract French influence in the Persian court.

Report adds to this statement, that the French influence so far prevailed at the court of Persia, that the British ambassador has returned to India, without effecting the purposes of his mission. It is even said, that the Anglo-Indian empire meditated preparations for convincing the Persian that it was not to be insulted with impunity. It is also said, that the Wahabees had received assistance in officers and ammunition from the English; and that, although the French were proceeding with their wonted activity, yet that they were likely to be anticipated, as to any real advantage they could derive from their undertaking.

We have treated this subject, in reference to India, at sufficient length for the purpose of general information, in our Fourth Volume, p. 1—18, where the reader will find a map of the countries concerned, &c.

As the Wahabees, by their association with the British power, are likely, in case circumstances should become serious, to increase in importance, and to act a principal part among the oriental chiefs, we presume that the present is a favourable opportunity for bringing our readers acquainted with somewhat of their origin and history. We shall abstract from Niebuhr, who was the first author that mentioned this sect, what information he had been able to procure: the suggestions of M. Silvestre de Sacy, as to their origin, may be considered as completing the account.

We learn from Niebuhr, speaking of Arabia, that formerly the inhabitants of the towns and villages of *Nedjed* were all (except a few *Sabeans*, or christians of St. John, and a small number of Jews) of the Mahometan sect of the *Sunnites*; and as a part of the Mahometans of Hadjar is, zealous sectaries of *Hānbalī*. Within a few years a new sect has appeared in the province of *El dred*; or rather it is a new religion, which, in time, may perhaps produce considerable changes in the faith and government of the Arabs. The founder of this sect was a certain *Abd ul wāheb*: he was a native of *Nesjed*; and in his early life applied himself to the study of the sciences of Arabia, in his own country. He afterwards lived some years at *Basra*: he travelled to *Bagdad*, and also in Persia. At his return to *Nesjed*, he propagated new opinions in religion among his countrymen; and was fortunate enough to gain over several Scheicks in the province of *El dred*. Their subjects followed the example of their rulers, and became disciples of this new teacher. Some of these newly converted Scheicks, who formerly had made a continual war on each other, became friends, by the mediation of *Abd ul wāheb*, and agreed not to undertake any matter of importance without previously consulting their new superior. By this arrangement the balance of political power was destroyed among the lesser princes of *El dred*; because, many of the Scheicks, who heretofore had been able to maintain themselves against their neighbours, were too weak to resist a combination so powerful. The conflicts also between the opposing parties became more cruel and sanguinary, because the combatants on both sides considered themselves as attacked on account of their religious opinions: and one side fought to subdue a rising heresy; the other to vanquish unbelievers, who obstinately persisted in their ancient errors. After *Abd ul wāheb* had subjected a considerable part of *El dred*, and the other Scheicks, being divided among themselves, were

no longer able to oppose his power, they called in to their assistance *Arār*, Scheick of *Lāchsa*. This prince not only thought himself bound to support those of his own religion, but he was aware of his danger, should these enthusiasts become powerful enough to invade his dominions. The first army that Scheick *Arār* sent into *El dred* was beaten. At length he took the field himself; as was said, at the head of 4,000 men, with four old pieces of cannon, either Portuguese or Turkish, and one mortar. He besieged *Abd ul wāheb* in a fort, built on a mountain in *Daraic*: but as he did not know how to use his artillery, and brought his troops too near the fort, he was exposed to the musquetry of his enemy, and was so roughly handled, that his army was thrown into confusion and obliged to return to *Lachsa*. The other Scheicks of *El dred* who remained firm in their ancient religion, were so strongly pushed by the partizans of *Abd ul wāheb*, that while I was at *Basra*, they wrote for help to all the neighbouring Arabs.

The religious principles of this people have been variously reported: the most credible statement appears to be, that *Abd ul wāheb* taught his followers, that God only was to be addressed and adored as the Creator and Preserver of all things: that he forbade prayers in the name of *Mohammed*, and of every other saint, and prophet; neither would he admit of invocation in his own name; because that might lead to idolatry. He considered Mahomet, Jesus Christ, Moses, and very many others whom the *Sunnites* rank among prophets, as great men, and persons of high respectability, whose histories and discourses may be read or heard without any transgression; but in his opinion, no work whatever had been written by divine inspiration, or by the angel Gabriel. He forbade vows under circumstances of danger, to be fulfilled in case of a happy deliverance; as was customary among his neighbours the *Sunnites*, who when in distress are extraordinarily devout; and bind themselves to the giving of very considerable sums in alms; which engagements they punctually fulfil. *Abd ul wāheb*, however, it is said, allowed the right of private vengeance in the nearest of kin to a man slain, without waiting for the sanction of public justice.

After the death of *Abd ul wāheb*, his son *Mohammed* trod in the steps of his father, and became the Pope of *El dred*. He is considered as an ecclesiastic; and although the smaller states of this country are, as to name and appearance, governed by their respective Scheicks, yet in reality, their true sovereign is *Mohammed ibn Abd ul wāheb*. He exacted from all his subjects certain tributes, under the name of *Sikka* or *aid*, to maintain the poor, and to support his religion against un-

believers. The *Sunnites* who adhered, through obstinacy, to the religion of their ancestors, were so severely oppressed by him and his followers, that many of them fled from their country, to enjoy liberty and safety elsewhere.

M. Silvestre de Sacy informs us that he had been long struck by the many resemblances of the Wahabees to the Carmatians, an ancient persuasion, from which had sprung the Fatimites, the Batenians, the Assassins, the Druzes, the Nosairians, the Mutualis, and other sects, partly religious, partly political. The following communication which he has published was received by him from a person of confidence at Constantinople.

The Carmatians, Ancestors and Predecessors of the Wahabees.

The revolutions, whether political or religious, of which history offers us the diversified delineation in all ages and in all countries, are entitled to especial attention, when they occur in the same country, and among the same people, though at great intervals of time.

The province of Bahrein, which adjoins that of Bassora, that of Yemana, and the Persian Gulf, of which *Al Ahsa* (or Lahsa) is the capital, is the station and seat of the principal tribes of the Wahabees. From hence have issued the innovating enemies of Islamism, who denying the divinity of the Koran, and the celestial mission of Mahomet, and preaching, sword in hand, the dogmas of a simplified religion, have sworn the ruin of Mahometism, and have begun to gratify their religious animosity by the pillage of the holy places, and of the sacred cities of Mecca and Medina. Now, it is a singular fact, but very little known, that this same province of Bahrein, was almost a thousand years ago the seat of the power of the Carmatians, who were innovators in religion, and who are resembled in every thing by their successors the Wahabees. They profess the same doctrine, are animated by the same spirit of plunder, have, like them, revolted against the established authority of the Caliph; and like them gave up the sacred temple of Mecca to pillage, and spread terror and dread throughout the neighbouring provinces; or rather, it might be more correct to say, that they are the same people, retaining the same character and the same manners, displaying the same principles of religion and independence, though under different chiefs, and exhibiting the same spectacle to the world, though at the distance of ten intervening centuries.

A sufficient conviction of this fact, may be obtained by a slight inspection of the history of the Carmatians, in order to compare events of former days with those which are passing at present.

The Carmatians had many successive chiefs, who promulgated the same kind of doctrine.

The most famous were Abu Said and Abu Taher. They denied the necessity of legal purifications: they did not acknowledge any kind of beverage as forbidden; they kept only two fast days in the year. They intended to abolish the pilgrimage to Mecca, and substitute that to Jerusalem. They were named after Hamadan Carmati, who first preached this doctrine at Cufa, in the reign of the Caliph Motamed ben Motéwakkel, in the year 275 of the Hegira. They were not long before they openly revolted against the authority of the Caliph: they attacked and pillaged the caravans from Mecca. In the year 307 they assaulted Mecca itself; under the conduct of their chief Abu Taher of Bahrein. They killed more than 30,000 persons, as well women as men; pillaged the holy places, and carried off even the black stone, which is so highly venerated by the Mussulmens: after this exploit, they withdrew to their province of Hadjar, otherwise called Bahrein.

Their chief had the insolence to give a detailed account of this action, which he made his boast, in a letter to Abeid Allah Mahadi, the then reigning Caliph of the Fatimites: from whom he received an answer of the following import:

"I am astonished; nor can I recover from my astonishment! Thou hast dared to send me a letter, in which thou makest thy boast of the atrocities thou hast committed against the city of God! a city even in the days of ignorance venerated by all people, no less than since the establishment of Islamism! Thou has shed the blood of the faithful; thou hast destroyed the caravans of the pilgrims; thou hast profaned and spoiled the sacred temple; thou hast even displaced the black stone by which God pardons his servants, and hast carried it away with thee. And for these actions is it, that thou desirest my thanks? The curse of God be upon thee! Yea, the curse of God be upon thee! Yea, the curse of God be upon thee! Blessed be he who labours with his voice or with his hands for the salvation of men, and who performs to-day actions which may prove advantageous to him to-morrow."

The black stone was not returned to its place till redeemed in the year 339 by the Caliph Moti-billah, for 80,000 ducats, according to Cateb Tehélebi, or as Hanbali says, for 30,000; about which time these tribes, rebels at once against the Mahometan law and government, returned to order.

We may infer from these data that the people who inhabit the province of Bahrein, adjacent to the Persian gulf, have been in all ages but little disposed to adopt the precepts of Islamism; against which they raised the standard of revolt three hundred years after the prophet had proclaimed his mission; that

being naturally of a mutinous disposition, restless and thievish, they have wanted, in the ages past, nothing but favourable opportunities to propagate opinions that appear to be, as it were, natural to their country, and courageous chiefs to carry far from their dwellings the ravages of war and religious fanaticism. Without such chiefs, it may be presumed, that they would again sink into that state of oblivion in which they have vegetated during nine hundred years: but having at their head a man of resolution and talent, they may again become infinitely more dangerous than they have yet been, not only to the very seat and centre of the Mahometan religion, and to the authority of the Caliphate, but even to the Persian and Turkish empires; and particularly to the latter, the governments of which experience so great difficulty in confining their ravages. If the commander of the Wahabees, after their late sacking of Mecca, had written such a letter to the Ottoman Sultan as the chief of the Carmatians wrote to the Fatimite Caliph, he might probably, have received an answer, not unlike that of Obeid Allah; but if the audacity of the Wahabees had extended so far as that of the Carmatians, to the seizure of the black stone, it is very doubtful whether the Sultan would have redeemed it at the price of *thirty*, much less at that of *eighty thousand* ducats.

We must observe, that although the Arabs are generally nomades, or wanderers, yet it would be erroneous if any should suppose the inference to be valid, that the tribes which inhabit, at this time, the province of Bahrein, and the environs of the Persian gulf, are different from those which inhabited the same districts a thousand years ago: for although these wanderers change continually both place and residence, yet the great tribes, which originally inhabit a province, do not quit it; and we find, at this day, the principal Arab tribes of which history has preserved the names; such as those of Himyar, Cahlan, Taj, Témim, Abs, Khaibar, in the same provinces of Arabia, where they had been settled long before the appearance of Mahomet. We may, therefore, affirm that the same people, which at this moment attracts the attention of the world under the appellation of Wahabees, had, nine hundred years ago, been equally conspicuous under the name of Carmatians.

The historical facts on which this representation is founded are extracted from the geographical work, in Turkish, of Cateb Tchélébi, or Hadgi Khalfa, intitled *Djihan-numa*, continued and printed at Constantinople, by Ibrahim Effendi; and the Arabian history of Egypt, which is intitled *Nozhat al nazirin fi tarikhi men wala masr min al Kholefa Wassalatini*, by the son of the Imam Yusouf Hanbali.

PLEASURES OF A POLAR WINTER.

To the Editor of the *Literary Panorama*.

SIR,—The perusal of the entertaining account, given in the *PANORAMA*, Vol. II, p. 1238, of the peculiarities of a polar summer, and Vol. III. p. 131. of the hardships of a polar winter, supported by some of our countrymen, induces me to send you what the French call a *pendant* to it, or the *pleasures* of a winter, not, indeed, in Greenland, but in Petersburg. To a stranger, who has never passed a winter in any northern capital; it may be difficult to convey a good idea of the delights of travelling post in a *traineau*, or of driving ladies on the ice, in chairs adapted to the purpose.

There are two interesting epochs at Petersburg, namely, the freezing of the Neva, and the breaking up of the ice. When the former takes place, winter is considered as a delightful season. Communications are opened everywhere; the roads are in fine order; provisions are brought from all parts of the empire on sledges, and, in the market, we see piles of hares, moor-game, white partridges, geese, turkeys, pigs, &c. in a frozen state. Sometimes an unfortunate thaw takes place, which becomes a serious calamity to the dealers, who are obliged, in consequence of it, to throw away great quantities of provisions.

The prodigious concourse of carriages and *traincaux* (sledges) gives the city a most animated appearance. It is more rare in Russia to see a horse going a foot's pace, than in Spain to see a mule gallop. The *Ywoschischiki*, or *traincaux* drawn by a single horse, are to be met with everywhere; the passenger steps into one without any ceremony, the coachman jumps on to his seat, whistles, calls out *gare!* and sets off like a shot. You are conveyed from one end of the city to the other, with the utmost celerity. The costume of the coachman is remarkable: he is covered with a sheep's-skin, or with some coarse stuff, tied with a broad woollen girdle: he wears very large skin gloves, and a stuffed yellow cap. His long beard, covered with hoar-frost, gives him the air of Winter personified. Thus clad in the most severe weather, he waits patiently at the corner of a street; or sleeps on the snow, while his horse, as hardy as himself, and whitened by the frost, eats his wisp of hay, or his feed of oats. The Russian always goes with his breast uncovered; provided his extremities are well clothed, he braves the rigour of the season.

The Russians have also their races and games. The race with *traincaux* is on the

Neva; and the horse that quickens his pace into a gallop loses the race. The games consist of raising hills of ice, at a great expence on the river, and great quantities of water are thrown on them, to render them more slippery. Lovers of the sport, then suffer themselves to descend from top to bottom, with the greatest rapidity, either on skates, or in portable *traineaux*. On festival days, between twenty and thirty thousand spectators assemble, and amuse themselves with similar exercises, more or less extraordinary.

It is to be observed, that it is not the water of the river, which is frozen; that is prevented by the rapidity of its current, notwithstanding the severity of a northern winter. The masses of ice descend, ready formed, from the lake of Ladoga; they float on the river, till they are repelled by the waves of the sea; or, accumulating at its mouth, they soon form a field of solid ice. A London dame would shudder at the idea of crossing a wide river, in a carriage with six horses, over so fragile a substance. But, on returning from a ball or supper, wrapped up in a good pelisse, and in a warm carriage, we forget that we are on the water; particularly, when the ice is covered with snow, and the roads are well beaten. When winter sets in, the bridges of boats are drawn ashore, and there remains no other communication across the river. The circumstance of passing through rows of vessels, which appear to be lying on the ice, is remarkably striking. Those vessels serve in general for habitations, and sometimes as a retreat for rogues and thieves. If they attack any wandering passengers, they strip them and throw them into the holes in the ice made for the washerwomen, or the water-carriers.

Without entering into any detail respecting the superb palace of ice built on the Neva by the empress Anne, I shall just observe, that an Italian architect, reflecting on the intensity of ice in that country, conceived the idea of employing it as a foundation for buildings. Many observations have proved, that the thaw does not penetrate more than six feet below the surface: icehouses do not require that depth even in Russia; consequently cubes of ice would form a solid foundation at that depth, which would be of great advantage to Petersburg, as it is built on a marshy soil and the houses stand on piles. The architect could not inspire the proprietor of a house with sufficient security to resolve on building it on ice, but he consented to make the trial for the portico, and for the wall of the courtyard, which is twelve feet in height. They have stood now nearly thirty years, without the least damage.

The Neva is generally frozen over at the beginning of November, and remains in that state till about the end of April; when it

breaks up very suddenly. In a moment we see boats rowing where *traineaux* were before travelling. A gun from the fortress announces the commotion, and the commandant, in a superb barge, carries to the emperor, who, with his courtiers, is waiting in the balcony of the palace, a bottle of water drawn from the middle of the stream, which then appears in all its majesty. The people hasten to the banks, ravished at the sight of that fine river, again rolling its waves. The eye rests with delight on the vast expanse, surrounded with magnificent palaces, on both banks; superb quays faced with granite; and ships and elegant yachts, sailing in all directions.

To conclude: it has often struck me, Mr. Editor, that *traineaux*, or sledges, might be rendered serviceable in this country. As soon as any quantity of snow has fallen in Germany, or in other parts of the north of Europe, besides the common sledges, gentlemen have their carriages taken off the wheels and put on to a *traineau*. This winter, particularly, when the communication was almost totally interrupted in many parts, surely light sledges might have been employed to forward the mails. Were I an inn-keeper in any of the northern countries, I should be induced to try the experiment, from a personal knowledge of the advantages attendant on the use of sledges during the winter season on the continent.

Yours, &c. VIATOR.

Our worthy correspondent, will excuse the addition of a few words to his ingenious communication. We understand, that other circumstances beside those he has mentioned, contribute to abate that gloom which we attribute to a polar winter.

After the snows are fallen, the state of the atmosphere is commonly serene; and but little troubled by storms; neither is it liable to such mists and fogs as we are well acquainted with in London. The cold is intense; but the sensations consequent on it, are cheerful, invigorating, and rather allied to hilarity than to suffering, especially after a few days continuance of it have somewhat accustomed a person to it. The exercise that may be taken abroad is more than we generally imagine; and those who can scate derive many advantages from the frozen waters. The natives of Holland, women as well as men make no difficulty of scating twenty miles to market, and back again. They go to a distant friend's to breakfast, or return in the evening, on their scates. But, a remarkable employment of this mode of travelling, is the military expeditions performed on the lakes in Canada. It would be thought in England a rare spectacle to see a regiment of soldiers, scating in military array, yet this has often been done on Lake Superior, at the

rate of about sixty miles *per day*. When the moon shines brightly, this exercise is continued; and the brilliancy of the lunar rays is by far superior to her general effulgence in our own latitudes: she is indeed "Regent of night." The stars, too, appear more numerous, as well as brighter, to the naked eye; and the cerulean heavens glow with a more resplendent azure. The light of the Aurora Borealis is also extremely vivid, and sufficient for the service of travellers.

But, to enter fully into the enjoyments of a polar winter, we should pass the time with the Finlander in his cabin, or the Laplander in his hut. Sunk into the ground some feet, by way of protection from the penetrating power of frost; and presenting but a mere conical point to the weight of snow, and the power of the wind, the dwelling bids defiance to the rigour of the season: while the family within find themselves assembled, and alive to social enjoyment. This is the season for conversation and intercourse. While all abroad is frozen, the mind *may* expand. The parents have laid in their stores; they have made provision for the winter's consumption; the young men, under their direction, have set their traps, and they tend them, to see from time to time what further support they furnish. This is, now, their chief occupation; and the rest of their time they spend in forming those connections which are hereafter to become their constant enjoyments: young women are then engaged in kindresses. The fact is, that these people are removed from those fascinations by which the desire of accumulation impels natives of more temperate climates. They value the productions, the *natural* productions, of their own country: these are their wealth. Artificial riches, the gains arising from calculations, and profits by means of the precious metals, they are not indeed strangers to, but are indifferent about. They have no doubt, among them, different dispositions and characters: the worthy and the unworthy, the generous and the selfish; they have their hard hearts, and their miserly spirits; but these acting within narrow limits the infelicities their occasion are narrow also. They shew, indeed, that under all climates, and seasons, man is the cause of his own disappointments and vexations. Not the circumstances that surround him, whether he be placed amid the fervent plains of India, the sandy deserts of Arabia, the temperate vales of Europe, or the snow-clad regions of the Poles, are to blame: man is not, therefore, either happy, or unhappy. Whether he enjoy the perpetual spring of Quito, the verdant summer of Britain, the rich autumn of Italy, or the winter—the long, long, winter of Lapland, and the Arctic Circle: they are all equally indifferent to his real happiness.

OBSERVATIONS ON SWEDEN.

Under the present critical and extremely interesting circumstances of the kingdom of Sweden, authentic information, relating to that country, is acceptable.

The remarks of foreigners are less liable to be perverted by a spirit of party, than those of natives; and, unhappily for that country, it is at present torn by party spirit, to its great detriment, if not to its danger and ruin. The following observations have been translated by a valued correspondent, from the German, expressly for the *Panorama*. They comprise much in a simple and short statement; which at once entitles them to confidence, and marks them as the result of judicious observation. For other particulars concerning this kingdom, vide *Panorama*, Vol. III. p. 1302, and Vol. IV, p. 170, 362, 1019. *et al.*

The greatest population in Sweden is in southern Gothland, particularly in the fertile province of Schonen; and in no other part are there so many different dialects. The province of West Bothnia may be considered as the grand theatre of nature: in some places, in the months of June and July, the night is as clear as the day; and at midsummer the sun is scarcely below the horizon. The inhabitants, notwithstanding their scanty means of support, are lively, courageous, and very expert in all kinds of handicraft workmanship. The external appearance of nature, in many parts of Sweden, is not the only object, which, as differing from England, claims our attention. The animal kingdom exhibits many local peculiarities. The flesh of the rein deer is delicate. Wolves are very common, and in winter may be met with in troops.* Hares, during that season, become white, and are so plentiful in Jaemtland, that the peasants catch them by hundreds. Of all objects, however, Man will always remain the most interesting

* During a former war between the Russians and Swedes, the wolves in the province of Finland were so terrified by the noise of the cannon, and the frequency of the engagements, that they deserted their old quarters in troops of hundreds; and proved a severe scourge to the other provinces, into which they threw themselves. It is very probable, that the same effect may have taken place during the last winter; and that we may expect to hear of great ravages committed by these ferocious animals. Another affliction added to the horrors of war!—*Editor.*

and attractive. The national character of a people is best elucidated by their history. The Swedes are proud of never having been conquered. As the feudal system was not established among them, they have maintained a firm and determined character; the leading features of which are valour, resolution, assiduity, and reflection. They possess more forethought and economy than the Norwegians; but, in the southern provinces they are gifted with a greater degree of subtlety and acuteness, than might be expected in a country so distant from the more learned and polite parts of Europe. Notwithstanding the little share of instruction which the yeomanry receive, yet they are masters of a practical education arising from their being capable of deputation to the national diet; from their consciousness of liberty as men, and as members of the legislature, and from their thorough knowledge of their rights, and vigilance in maintaining them. Itinerant schoolmasters diffuse instruction over the country, and pass a few weeks in every village. As their stay is but short in a place, they have not time to instruct the peasants in much more than reading; nevertheless many of them can write. We must observe, however, that although Sweden is said to contain 80,205 villages, yet they are not what in general we understand by the term. The farm-houses are quite insulated; and frequently at a great distance from each other. Hence every father of a family must teach his own children; and, in winter, the churches being but thinly scattered, he must officiate as the priest of his patriarchal religion. This separation of families is to be considered as favourable to public morals. A peasant who seduces a young woman *must* marry her; or quit the province.

Tobacco and snuff are very little used, and in some villages coffee is unknown. Unhappily, on the contrary, spirits are become the general beverage; and to them may be attributed the present debility of constitution, with the increased immorality in Sweden. Gustavus III. in 1778 proposed to the Diet the introduction of this branch of revenue, which he had learned in Russia. The boy of ten years of age, now drinks his glass of spirits; and Sweden is reduced to the necessity of importing corn for food, which, before she exported to foreigners.

The Dalecarlians are a robust and honest people; their wants are few, and their manner of living is very simple. In winter they are employed in building; and in summer they work in the mines. They wear a particular dress, and call every person *thou*; which used frequently to amuse the late king. Women in the respectable circles of life are seldom seen in the streets, and public walks; they are too much engaged at home; and

even the most wealthy are not ashamed of being occupied in cookery, and other domestic duties.

Upsal is the most enlightened of the universities, owing to its vicinity to the capital. The appointment of professors is a sight worthy the traveller's attention. The candidates, with red ribbons at their knees and in their shoes, march to the cathedral through a line of soldiers; after the ceremony, they return to a public dinner, crowned with laurel. The students are not guilty of those excesses which disgrace some universities: they do not even play at billiards. The study of theology there seems to be fast declining. Lund is of less note than Upsal, though on a par with the German universities; a remarkable stagnation of intellect has appeared since the year 1740, and the deplorable passion of nepotism reigns particularly among the clergy. Still less vigour in pursuit of science may we expect to find in the distant university of Abo; yet the Finns, when they please, are wont to shew great firmness and penetration.

LICENCES TO EAT FLESH IN LENT.

To the Editor of the Literary Panorama.

SIR,

Dr. Zouch, in his charming life of Sir Philip Sidney gives us a letter from the Earl of Leicester to Dr. Matthew Parker, Archbishop of Canterbury, requesting a licence to allow his nephew Sir Philip Sidney to eat flesh during Lent, when he was only fifteen years old (see Life of Sidney p. 26).

"I thank your good grace most humbly for my great cheer yesterday, and signify the same; but the chiefest matter wherein I had to move your good grace was for a licence to be granted to my boy Philip Sidney, who is somewhat subject to a sickness, for eating flesh this Lent, for which I then forgot to speak to you; and have now thought good to desire your grace to grant unto him the said licence in whatsoever form may seem best unto you, so as he may have with him Mr. Doctor Cooper, who is his tutor; and thus I humbly take my leave.

From Durham House, this Wednesday, the 3rd of March 1569, your grace's most humble to command, ROBERT LEICESTER."

Subjoined is a note from a MS. in the Library of Bennet College, Cambridge.

"In Rymer's *Fœdera*, vol. 18, p. 309, is a copy of an indulgence, bearing date on the 3d day of March, 1526, to Sir John Walter, Knt. Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, to eat flesh on the days prohibited, during his life, on a remonstrance that fish was prejudicial to his health. It was extended to his wife,

and other four persons at his table, on condition of his paying a mark yearly to the poor of his parish.—In the reign of Henry VIII. Henry Earl of Surry, was imprisoned in Windsor Castle for eating flesh in Lent; and one of the most beautiful of his compositions is a very tender elegy, written by him when he was a prisoner lamenting the happier days which he had formerly passed there."

I know not exactly to what period this discipline extended; but I transmit to you an entry in the Vestry book of St. Mary, Matfelon, otherwise Whitechapel, bearing date March 9th, 1662.

"Licence granted to Dr. Johnson [then rector of the parish] to eat flesh in Lent for which he paid 6s. 8d. to the poor, he being sick."

I am, Sir, yours, &c.

PALÆOGUS.

March 31, 1809.

OF THE PAGODAS OF HINDOSTAN.

The most durable monuments of human industry are public buildings. The productions of art formed for the common purposes of life, waste and perish in using them; but works destined for the benefit of posterity subsist through ages, and it is according to the manner in which these are executed, that we form a judgment with respect to the degree of power, skill and improvement to which the people by whom they were erected had attained. In every part of India monuments of high antiquity are found. These are of two kinds, such as were consecrated to the offices of religion, or fortresses built for the security of the country. In the former of these, to which Europeans, whatever their structure may be, give the general name of *Pagodas*, we may observe a diversity of stile, which both marks the gradual progress of architecture and throws light on the general state of arts and manners in different periods. The most early Pagodas appear to have been nothing more than excavations in mountainous parts of the country, formed probably in imitation of the natural caverns to which the first inhabitants of the earth retired for safety during the night, and where they found shelter from the inclemency of the seasons. The most celebrated, and, as there is reason to believe, the most ancient of all these, is the Pagoda in the island Elephanta, at no great distance from Bombay. It has been hewn by the hand of man out of a solid rock, about half way up a high mountain, and formed into a spacious area, nearly 127 feet square. In order to support the roof, and the weight of the mountain that lies above it a number of massy pillars, of a form not inelegant, have been cut out of the same rock, at such regular distances, as on

the first entrance presents to the eye of the spectator, an appearance both of beauty and of strength. Great part of the inside is covered with human figures in high relief, of gigantic size as well as singular forms, and distinguished by a variety of symbols, representing, it is probable, the attributes of the deities whom the sculptors worshipped, or the actions of the heroes whom they admired. In the isle of Salsette, still nearer to Bombay, are excavations in a similar stile, hardly inferior in magnificence, and destined for the same religious purposes. These stupendous works are of such high antiquity, that as the natives cannot, either from history or tradition, give any information concerning the time in which they were executed, they universally ascribe the formation of them, to the power of superior beings. From the extent and grandeur of these subterraneous mansions, which intelligent travellers compare to the most celebrated monuments of human power and art in any part of the earth, it is manifest that they could not have been formed in that stage of social life where men continued divided into small tribes, unaccustomed to the efforts of persevering industry. It is only in states of considerable extent, and among people long habituated to subordination, and to act in concert, that the idea of such magnificent works is conceived, or the power of accomplishing them can be found.

That some such powerful state was established in India at the time when the excavations in the islands of Elephanta and Salsette were formed, is not the only conclusion to be drawn from a survey of them; the stile in which the sculptures with which they are adorned is executed, indicates a considerable improvement in art, at that early period. Sculpture is the imitative art in which man seems to have made the first trial of his own talents. But even in those countries where it has attained to the highest degree of perfection, its progress has been extremely slow. Whoever has attended to the history of this art in Greece, knows how far removed the first rude essay to represent the human form, was from any complete delineation of it. But the different groupes of figures which still remain entire in the Pagoda of Elephanta, however low they must rank if they be compared with the more elegant works of Grecian or even Etruscan artists, are finished in a stile considerably superior to the hard, inexpressive manner of the Egyptians, or to the figures in the celebrated palace of Persepolis. In this light they have appeared to persons abundantly qualified to appreciate their merit, and from different drawings, particularly those of Niebuhr, a traveller equally accurate in observing, and faithful in describing, we must form a favourable opinion of the state of arts in India at that period.

It is worthy of notice, that although several of the figures in the caverns at Elephanta be so different from those now exhibited in the Pagodas as objects of veneration, that some learned Europeans have imagined they represent the rites of a religion more ancient than that now established in Hindostan, yet by the Hindoos themselves the caverns are considered as hallowed places of their own worship, and they still resort thither to perform their devotions, and honour the figures there, in the same manner with those in their own Pagodas. In confirmation of this, we are informed by an intelligent observer, who visited this subterraneous sanctuary in the year 1782, that he was accompanied by a sagacious Brahmin, a native of Benares, who, though he had never been in it before that time, recognized, at once, all the figures; was well acquainted with the parentage, education, and life of every deity or human personage there represented, and explained with fluency the meaning of the various symbols by which the images were distinguished. This may be considered as a clear proof that the system of mythology now prevalent in Benares, is not different from that delineated in the caverns of Elephanta. Mr. Hunter, who visited Elephanta in the year 1784, seems to consider the figures there as representing deities who are still objects of worship among the Hindoos. One circumstance serves to confirm the justness of this opinion. Several of the most conspicuous personages in the groupes at Elephanta are decorated with the *Zennar*, the sacred string or cord peculiar to the order of Brahmins, an authentic evidence of the distinction of castes having been established in India, at the time when these works were finished.

2. Instead of caverns, the original places of worship, which could be formed only in particular situations, the devotion of the people soon began to raise temples in honour of their deities in other parts of India. The structure of these was at first extremely simple. They were pyramids of large dimension, and had no light within but what came from a small door. After having been long accustomed to perform all the rites of religion in the gloom of caverns, the Indians were naturally led to consider the solemn darkness of such a mansion as sacred. Some Pagodas in this first stile of building still remain in Indostan. Drawings of two of these at Deogur, and of a third near Tanjore in the Carnatic, all fabrics of great antiquity, have been published by M. Hodges, and though they are rude structures, they are of such magnitude, as must have required the power of some considerable state to rear them.

3. In proportion to the progress of the different countries of India in opulence and refinement, the structure of their temples gradually improved. From plain buildings they became highly ornamented fabrics, and,

both by their extent and magnificence, are monuments of the power and taste of the people by whom they were erected. In this highly finished style there are Pagodas of great antiquity in different parts of Hindostan, particularly in the southern provinces, which were not exposed to the destructive violence of Mahomedan zeal. In order to assist the reader in forming such an idea of these buildings as may enable him to judge with respect to the early state of arts in India, we shall briefly describe two, of which we have the most accurate accounts. The entry to the Pagoda of Chhillambrum near Porto Novo on the Coromandel coast, held in high veneration on account of its antiquity, is by a stately gate under a pyramid an hundred and twenty-two feet in height, built with large stones above forty feet long, and more than five feet square, and all covered with plates of copper, adorned with an immense variety of figures neatly executed. The whole structure extends one thousand three hundred and thirty-two feet in one direction, and nine hundred and thirty-six in another. Some of the ornamental parts are finished with an elegance entitled to the admiration of the most ingenious artists. The Pagoda of Seringham, superior in sanctity to that of Chhillambrum, surpasses it as much in grandeur; and, fortunately, we can convey a more perfect idea of it by adopting the words of an elegant and accurate historian. This Pagoda is situated about a mile from the western extremity of the island of Seringham, formed by the division of the great river Caveri into two channels. "It is composed of seven square inclosures, one within the other, the walls of which are twenty-five feet high, and four thick. These inclosures are three hundred and fifty feet distant from one another, and each has four large gates, with a high tower; which are placed, one in the middle of each side of the inclosure, and opposite to the four cardinal points. The outward wall is near four miles in circumference, and its gateway to the South is ornamented with pillars, several of which are single stones thirty-three feet long, and nearly five in diameter; and those which form the roof, are still larger; in the inmost inclosures are the chapels. About half a mile to the east of Seringham, and nearer to the Caveri than Coleroon, is another large Pagoda, called Jembikisma; but this has only one inclosure. The extreme veneration in which Seringham is held, arises from a belief that it contains that identical image of the god Wistchnu, which used to be worshipped by the god Brahma. Pilgrims from all parts of the peninsula come here to obtain absolution, and none come without an offering of money; and a large part of the revenue of the island is allotted for the maintenance of the Brahmins who inhabit

the Pagoda former forty labour Here, India, which a volu

In stupefied extent the isl employ of their labour to finis Loose convey view godas abad, rock, phant pass th M. T of the above nothing iii. ch leisure quetil of the drawi whole the w the i which object guish There tain a moun coast good are m in As other produ been some is cor ginee of th India says l mark lizati the C carvi tries, exce only exper inst

the Pagoda; and these, with their families, formerly composed a multitude of not less than forty thousand souls, maintained, without labour, by the liberality of superstition. Here, as in all the other great Pagodas of India, the Brahmins live in a subordination which knows no resistance, and slumber in a voluptuousness which knows no wants."

In several parts of India, there are other stupendous works of a similar nature. The extent and magnificence of the excavations in the island of Salsette are such, that the artist employed by governor Boon to make drawings of them, asserted that it would require the labour of forty thousand men for forty years to finish them. *Archæologia*, vol. vii. p. 336. Loose as this mode of estimation may be, it conveys an idea of the impression which the view of them made on his mind. The Pagodas of Ellore, eighteen miles from Aurungabad, are likewise hewn out of the solid rock, and if they do not equal those of Elephanta and Salsette in magnitude, they surpass them far in their extent and number. M. Thevenot, who first gave a description of these singular mansions, asserts, that for above two leagues all around the mountain nothing is to be seen but Pagodas; *Voy. Part. iii. chap. 44*. They were examined at greater leisure and with more attention by M. Anquetil du Perron; but as his long description of them is not accompanied with plan or drawing, it cannot convey a distinct idea of the whole. It is evident, however, that they are the works of a powerful people, and among the innumerable figures in sculpture with which the walls are covered, all the present objects of Hindoo worship may be distinguished. *Zendavesta. Disc. Prelim. p. 233*. There are remarkable excavations in a mountain at Mavalipuram near Sadras. This mountain is well known on the Coromandel coast by the name of the *Seren Pagodas*. A good description of the works there, which are magnificent and of high antiquity, is given in *Asiat. Research. vol. i. p. 145, &c.* Many other instances of similar works might be produced if it were necessary. What has been here asserted, concerning the elegance of some of the ornaments in Indian buildings, is confirmed by colonel Call, late chief engineer at Madras, who urges this as a proof of the early and high civilization of the Indians. "It may safely be pronounced," says he, "that no part of the world has more marks of antiquity for arts, sciences and civilization, than the peninsula of India, from the Ganges to Cape Comorin. I think the carvings on some of the Pagodas and Choultries, as well as the grandeur of the works, exceed any thing executed now-a-days, not only for the delicacy of the chisel, but the expence of construction, considering in many instances, to what distances the component

parts were carried, and to what heights they were raised." *Philosophical Transactions, vol. lxxix. p. 354*

GROUND ICE.

The following is one of those curious phenomena in natural history, which demand inquiry as to their causes, while they perplex the observer. It is taken from the Gentleman's Magazine, vol. lxxix, p. 199. If we were attempting to account for this uncommon circumstance, we should, perhaps, suspect, that the ground, over which this water runs, is impregnated with some saline principle, which acts like the salt employed in the freezing mixture. If this hint should induce any friend to analyse the earth, and especially if, in consequence of it, any mineral should be discovered of new or valuable properties, it would give us great satisfaction. At any rate, accounts of such departures from the usual course of nature deserve publicity and preservation.

It is observed, there are but few rivers, if any, besides the Avon, which flows from Salisbury to the sea, that produces this rare and singular congelation. This phenomenon, with every circumstance attending its formation and effects, has hitherto escaped the notice of those who are best qualified to elucidate the subject. With a view to such an explanation, I am induced to state the case as plainly as I can, so as to engage the attention of the learned.

Whenever the Winter sets in with a severe frost, the water at the bed or bottom of the river Avon congeals into vast bodies of ice, resembling in its appearance fleeces of wool; these fix themselves to weeds and gravel at the bed of the river, which increasing in size and in weight, rise to the surface of the stream with whatever substance it is attached to, and would in its progress to the sea, if suffered to accumulate at the mills and hatches, carry every obstacle before it. The Ground Ice is a dreadful annoyance to the millers on this river, as, during the severity of the frost, they are obliged to watch their wiers and hatches night and day, lest they should be choked and blocked up by its immense masses; to separate and divide which, they use an instrument with a long handle, not unlike a gardener's spade. Before the sun rises, this Ice clings, like birdlime, to whatever it touches, and in this state all exertion of force or of art scarcely make any impression on it; but when the sun is up, it instantly becomes brittle, is as easily broken, and then dispersed, as the surface Ice.

What is still more remarkable, this congelation invariably takes place at the bed of this river in one night, and before the surface of the stream is frozen at all. The river Stour and the Avon unite at Christ Church: the former was never known to produce *this species of Ice*, even in the severest seasons; while the latter is seldom, if ever, without it. Its being found and appropriated to this river *alone*, together with the cause of its formation, and its effects, is truly surprising. Many have examined its nature and its qualities; but no satisfactory account of its peculiarities has ever been given. To aid every attempt in this investigation, I must not omit to observe, that the river Avon flows through a gravelly soil; that a great number of brooks, of a chalybeate and ferruginous quality, which take their rise in the bogs and morasses of the New Forest, empty themselves into this river in its windings to the sea; in other respects there is nothing singular or uncommon in this river, or any way different, *but in this particular*, from all others in the kingdom. I must observe, that no *Ground Ice* was ever seen in any of these brooks, the waters of which are certainly very much impregnated with iron, but when frozen are covered with the usual Ice. Its rarity in all other rivers, and its peculiarity to this, its tough and woolly nature, which renders it almost unmanageable before the sun is up, and when risen its brittleness so as to yield to any resistance, though many feet under water, are points totally unexplained at present; but they are such as merit the attention of your learned readers, whose information on this extraordinary subject, and on which I have thrown every possible light within my knowledge, will be thankfully received.—

Yours, &c. J. W.

Sopley, March 2.

FINE ARTS.

BRITISH INSTITUTION.

War is, in its nature, at all times prejudicial to the Arts: even the rumour of war has its effect; what then *must* be the consequences attendant on a war of long continuance? In a period of twenty years the professors of any art are nearly all removed by the course of nature, which knows no difference when commissioned to strike the fatal stroke; skill and ignorance, talent and incapacity, fall undistinguished.

If there be no inducements to the rising generation to devote themselves to these studies, by what mean shall that practical part of art, which is traditional, be perpetuated?—and what shall induce this self-devotion during the alarms, the anxieties, and the uncertainties of a state of warfare? The condition of the Arts in our island never has been

such that we could acquiesce in it, and be content not to experience a declension. We have always been under the necessity of urging all our powers to advance, to press forward, to rise to degrees of excellence, not yet fairly to be claimed by Britain, though attainable; as is proved by the instances of other countries. Individual merit combined becomes national merit; and it is in vain to wish for national merit without encouraging, supporting, and rewarding the merit of individuals. If the Professor is starving, what is likely to be the state of art? but the professor must starve, unless from some quarter his abilities may hope for a steady remuneration, and an honourable patronage.

Some of the arts demand a practice and study assiduously prolonged for many years, before they attain a considerable degree of merit: so that, if merit in these branches be suddenly demanded, it is not to be found. Fashion, too, has its influence, independent of deserved reputation; and personal connections, or other adventitious circumstances, which are usually ascribed to Fortune: these sometimes flow in upon a professor so that he scarcely knows how to fulfil his engagements; at other times they ebb so strongly away from him, that no power he possesses can retain them.

Under these disadvantages, and others which we need not particularize, we have occasionally rejoiced in contemplating the evidence that the Arts have maintained themselves so respectably as they have done. We have, indeed, lost the elder artists; but we have seen a generation rising to supply their places; and that too in many departments, with talents rather diverse than inferior. The patrons of Art have also been liberal toward distinguished merit, and the Institution on which we are now to report, stands as an honourable demonstration that merit need not abandon itself to despondency, nor

Waste its sweetness on the desert air.

The difficulty of stating the opinions formed by criticism on works of art, and of conveying intelligible observations to those who have never seen the subjects, has been felt by us on sundry occasions. It has been felt by our contemporaries also, and they have adopted various means by which to elude, rather than overcome it.

For our parts we have preferred the suggestion of considerations which might tend to benefit art itself: whether by pointing out errors, which correct taste would avoid, or by proposing improvements, which judgment would warrant, and which, in fact, it demands. We shall pursue that method on this occasion; and we desire that no artist will think himself slighted because his performance is “passed over as if it were unde-

serving of criticism. In most instances, we can honestly say, that would not be true; while in others we may say, with equal truth, that we see little to censure, or to be altered; and that little we cannot render intelligible to general readers, to whom the pages of our work *must* be addressed.

The first thing we shall observe on, is the general average of merit presented in these rooms. This is very respectable, and it suffers no drawback from the admission of any strikingly inferior performances. There are none which ought to have been excluded on account of insufficient execution. The Historical compositions are, indeed, subject to remark, because the manner of thinking is a considerable part of such pieces, and manifests ignorance, or knowledge, judgment or want of discretion, to the learned eye: the truly well-informed critic can support his opinion on this particular, by arguments intelligible to all. The Fancy pieces are usually indulged with more favour: and these, if they do not disgrace their pretensions, are allowed to pass, although their merit be not of the first order. We are happy to remark, that nothing of what the French term *polissonnerie* disgraces this branch of British art: ever may this distinction be justly claimed by our ingenious countrymen!

The department of Landscape is highly respectable: it partakes of an interesting, yet exalted tone. This branch of art may be studied with advantage in our own country, and does not demand, so much as some others, an acquaintance with the productions or possessions of foreign parts. Not that we mean to undervalue the landscapes presented by Italy, or the effects of lighter air, and less vapourous skies. But, we confess, whatever may be thought of our *Virtu*, that we have seen landscape compositions, in which English principles, objects, and effects, only, had been studied, which could not have been improved by the assistance of any Italianizing imitations whatever.

Portraits are, with great propriety excluded from this assemblage: this is not that branch of art which most needs encouragement: we are sure of finding enough of them at Somerset House.

We are happy in being able to report, that in a very short time after the opening of this gallery, performances to the amount of £1,500 were disposed of: and we have every reason to believe that the spirit of purchase was not likely to decline. We derive great pleasure, also, from the respectable and increasing list of subscribers. It includes most of the eminent patrons of art: and is honourable to the nation and to the individual, no less than to art.

It will be remembered, that during the summer season of last year, many favours

were conferred on art, by those who lent pictures, &c. for the purpose of being studied.

We shall notice a few subjects distinctly.

The Music Master by Mr. W. Sharp.—This picture has much expression, and general merit. It obtained the premium, anno 1808. Nevertheless, we do not augur from it, any thing very great in the future life of the author. It is an imitation of a *Dutch* scene, and affects to remind us of a *Dutch* performance. If this was by desire of the patron, the catalogue ought to have noticed that circumstance: if it be the voluntary adoption of the artist, we must take the liberty of reminding him, that imitation is but a kind of mimicry, and mimicry never yet distinguished an original genius.

Imogen found at the Cave of Belarius. Cymbeline, act IV. scene 2. by G. Dawe.—This picture manifests ingenuity, and has much merit in parts. The chief error which struck our observation was, the discrepancy between the *sunshine* morning effect, falling on the figures, and the other parts of the picture, which have no indications of sunshine, at all. We instance particularly the sky, which is in direct contrast to any sky that nature ever presented, when the sun's rays were so vigorous on the earth. As to the clumsy contrivance of supposing that these rays pass through peep-holes made on purpose, no true artist would have recourse to it; and even in that case, the scene would partake more than this picture does of the general effect produced by such an accident.

An inadvertence of a different kind is committed by J. J. Masquerier, in his picture of *the Minstrel playing on his harp before the Duchess of Buccleugh*. He has represented the boy-attendant on the minstrel as *holding the harp*. Now, a moment's reflection would have convinced the artist, that no performer could do justice to the tones of his instrument, under such a circumstance; since the vibrations of the body of it would be checked, by this impediment to their continuity.

We would also remind Mr. Hall, who has painted "the apparition of the *Ghost* of Patroclus to Achilles," that—we speak with great deference, as not professing to have drawn our observations from *ghostly* nature—we doubt, whether the thin aerial substance, which is usually understood to be the vehicle, by means of which disembodied spirits render themselves visible to bodily eyes, is subject to the laws of light and shade, as *solid* bodies are. No smart touches, should, in our opinion, bring forward the figure of a spirit. His armour, too, should be as *immaterial* as himself: for, to suppose, that a helmet of brass, or a helmet in any wise approaching to the weight of a helmet of brass, should be

sustained by a spiritual appearance, has, in our judgement, very much the air of an incongruity.

It is true, that the poets endow their ghosts with speech, and some other properties of living bodies: but this they cannot help. They never attribute to them a *tangible shape*: Ulysses could discern his mother in the shades; but he could not clasp her: and though the other ghosts flitted away from his sword, yet had he by accident struck one of them, he had but cleft the air—the misty air.

If Mr. Locount had properly considered his subject, he never would have represented Elijah *standing* on Mount Horeb, when the Lord passed by. I. Kings V. 11. The humblest posture of adoration, prostration, reverence would have been more proper: even *kneeling* is not sufficient: the face should be bowed down to the earth; and the hands clasped over the head, expressing the party's dread of the possibility, even, of accidental gazing, on an object of so great veneration.

Barker's picture of *The Maniac* has an uniformity of sentiment throughout it, which preserves its effect as a whole, and does great credit to the judgement and true taste of the artist. No part, no spot of this picture, glares, to divide, and thereby diminish the effect, consequent on the spectator's attention. The hue is throughout gloomy, melancholy, afflictive. Whether the pencil should select such subjects, we do not here enquire: but if the artist determine to treat such an one, he surely ought to put forth all the strength of his art; and this Mr. Barker has done.

Mr. Cook's Cymon looks like a fool: he is not even capable of being metamorphosed into a sensible man: we apprehend, therefore, that this is not the Cymon of Dryden.

There are other performances in this class, well deserving attention; especially those which have been painted for prizes: but our limits command us to omit them.

The picture which obtained the premium given in the class of landscape painting, Linnell's *Removing Timber in Autumn* is really a wonderful picture. Certainly, it is not faultless; but when we are given to understand that it is the production of a lad of *seventeen*, we are ready to do it ample justice. If Mr. Linnell devotes himself to study, he will become an eminent artist. But, we caution him against vanity, against indocility of spirit; and above all against the debaucheries, by which Moreland was lost to the arts and to himself: his first picture, we remember, was a country scene not absolutely unalloyed in subject to this which we are commending.

We find various other landscapes marked by us on our catalogue good: such as, several by Sass; by Barker; by Drummond; by Stowers; by Daniel; Arnauld's *Chapel in Roslin castle*; and Turner's *Sun rising*

through vapour. On the latter we would observe, that Mr. T. has admitted in his water, which is precisely the reflection of his clouds, a slight tinge of pinkish colour, which the clouds themselves do not possess. This diminishes the verisimilitude of the reflection. The picture, nevertheless, is admirable.

We cannot close this article, without congratulating the British nation on the general merit of the arts. The benefit has been felt, is felt, and will be felt, throughout all our manufactures, and whatever depends on fancy and composition. The taste of the public is become more correct. This Institution will partake of the praise and the gratification. It will spread, also, over our country; for already we have seen the advertisements of the Northern Society, who propose to open an Exhibition at Leeds; and we doubt not, but other provincial metropolises will follow the example.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE TERMS EMPLOYED IN DELIVERING VERDICTS BY CORONERS' JURIES.

To the Editor of the Literary Panorama.

SIR,—Much wishing to gain information on the following subject, I request the favour of your correspondents to give such as they may be able. There appears of late to be a different mode of delivering verdicts by coroners' juries from what there formerly was. When this practice arose, and what occasioned it, is the object of my inquiry. Instead of the verdicts, when people were found dead, of "Accidental"—"Lunacy"—"Suicide"—"Wilful murder, by a person or persons unknown"—or, "died by the visitation of God," we often now see others given, which describe the *more immediate* manner by which the person died, and the situation they were found in, as "strangled by suspension with a cord"—"Suffocated by water,"—&c. &c.

One circumstance, which lately occurred, I shall quote in the exact words in which I was informed a verdict was given: "*Found drowned without any marks of violence: by what means we cannot tell.*" This was an inquest taken at the Hare public-house, on the Hackney-road, on the body of an *unfortunate* young woman, which was found in a pond in London field, on Thursday morning, 11th August last. Such a verdict may be perfectly agreeable to the evidence given; but surely should not preclude further inquiries into the cause of such a melancholy catastrophe.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.

AN INQUIRER.

March 8, 1809.

ACCOUNT OF THE CANAL OF MURCIA.

The statements which we have given to the Public under the title of VIEWS IN SPAIN, have been distinguished by the judicious, and have been the subjects of considerable discussion. They described the attention of the Spanish government as having been directed to internal improvement, and to plans intending the welfare of the country. The following paper may be accepted in proof of the readiness with which the king listened to such proposals; while at the same time it discloses that want of firmness which suffered him to yield his sanction to what he ought rather to have opposed by his most decisive *veto*. If Spain had not in itself a sufficient number of capitalists, who would choose to invest a portion of their overplus wealth in a local undertaking for the benefit of their country, but must raise in foreign nations a loan to support the enterprise, it should appear to be the very opposite to sound policy in every form to give these strangers reason to complain of bad faith. For then, should assistance from abroad be wanted on any future occasion, however urgent, with what hopes could foreigners be again solicited? Their object was well known to be revenue, not patriotism; and a great revenue in this instance would have given a firmness to Spanish proposals in various other ways, and on many other occasions. The miser counteracted the politician.

This paper is also curious, as it shews the state of much of the Agricultural departments in Spain; also the calculations made in respect to their produce, &c. Nor is less remarkable the felicity of that climate which admits of the canals being bordered with "lemon, orange, mulberry, and olive trees:" these alone, by the side of a permanent body of water, must have yielded no trifling profit; while as ornaments, by their beauty, and by their fragrance, as well as their fruit; they could not but be highly grateful and delightful to all who were availing themselves of this mean of conveyance. To improve its agriculture, Spain stands in need of many such canals: partly for irrigation, and partly to ensure a more easy, extensive, and certain medium of intercourse between its cities, ports, and distant provinces. Spain is a kingdom composed of kingdoms: it is

VOL. VI. [Lit. Pan. May, 1809.]

deficient in unity. It resembles not a spider's web: the impulse which affects any one thread, how distant soever, is not felt along the line; nor does it reach the center: it is a series of inclosures, each separated from those adjacent to it; and still more from those at a distance. Should the time come when one heart, one voice, one sentiment, one counsel, one authority, shall animate Spain, that country will assume the character of a nation truly great, and may be, not only one of the most powerful, but, what is of infinitely higher consequence to its citizens, one of the most virtuous and most happy on the face of the earth.

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The canals that have been dug in Spain have not had for their principal object the facilitation of interior communication, but have chiefly, if not solely, been intended for the conveyance of water, through districts, the agriculture of which lay dormant, or in a state of languor, from a deficiency of that indispensable element. Valencia boasts an extensive and useful undertaking of this nature; and other parts of Spain have similar cuts, but on a smaller scale, for the purposes of irrigation. Experience having shewn the great benefit derived from them, a canal was undertaken in 1775 in Murcia, the extent and object of which will best appear from the following

*Plan for negotiating a loan of fifteen millions of lires tournois for the making of a navigable canal in the kingdom of Murcia.**

"This negotiation is opened at Madrid, at the house of Dn. Juan Soret, and shares in the proposed loan may be obtained in the principal commercial cities of Europe. It will be secured on mortgage of the revenues of the canal, of its privileges, properties, permissions, and prerogatives, granted to the royal company, under the firm of Pradez and company, by the royal Cedulla of his Catholic majesty, and his superior council of Castile, dated the 4th June 1775.

Experience having demonstrated the great advantage of canals for the watering of districts in Spain, in fertilizing those lands, such, in particular, as are found in the kingdom of Murcia, which for want of a necessary supply of moisture are otherwise barren and unproductive; and the necessity being also apparent of an interior navigation for the purpose of conveying timber from the other side of Loria to the dock yards at Carthagena,

* This is a translation from a French version of the original Spanish, which was circulated in France and Holland when this loan was negotiating, among the monied men of those countries.

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which at the same time would open a ready means of exporting the various articles produced in the country, and of conveying thither from the Mediterranean such goods as are requisite for its consumption; His Catholic majesty, with his superior council of Castile has, in consequence, granted unto Messieurs Pradex and Company permission to form a canal for irrigation and navigation in the kingdom of Murcia, with the property of the said canal, for the period of one hundred and ten years; which canal will be formed by the waters of the rivers Castil, Guardal, Maria, Velez, and of several other rivulets and springs; and will be carried through the towns of Lorca, Totana, the districts of Alama, Levrilla, Alcantarilla, Murcia, Fuentes Alamo, the city and port of Cartagena, and will terminate near the point of cape Palos. The navigable canal will be forty-three leagues in length, and with its branches, will water an extent of at least 450,000 fanegas of land, each comprising 31,750 superficial square feet.

His Catholic majesty, with his superior council of Castile, has empowered the company to levy on the proprietors of the land through which the canal passes, for watering-duty;—for the first thirty years, one sixth part of the crops of grain, and one eighth part of those of wine, oil, and other produce;—for the next twenty-five years, one seventh of the grain, and one ninth of other produce;—for the next twenty-five years, one eighth of the grain, and one tenth of other produce;—and for the last thirty years, one tenth of the grain, and one eleventh of other produce;—with power of discretionary possession of such lands as are intentionally suffered by the proprietors to lie uncultivated for two successive years; such lands to become in that case the irredeemable property of the company.

A large sum of money being requisite for carrying into execution an enterprise of this nature; his Catholic majesty, with his superior council of Castile, has authorised by his royal cedulla aforesaid Messrs. Pradex and Company to negotiate a loan of fifteen millions of livres tournois, on life annuities; and has allowed them to mortgage, as security for such loan, the canal, its dependencies, revenues, properties, and privileges.

In order to secure to the concerned in the loan the punctual payment of their annuities, his Catholic majesty, with his superior council of Castile, has appointed, as director of the funds and revenues of the said canal, Don Juan de Acedo Rico, member of the superior council of Castile; whose office it will be to take care that they be not diverted to any private purposes, that the revenues be not employed for the payment of any dividend to the undertakers until after payment of the annuities, and that the money raised by loan

be solely devoted to the making of the canal, for which the time of ten years is allowed by the said cedulla, but which the Company hope to effect in six years; they having obtained from the king the aid of a number of galley slaves to perform the heaviest labour, and purposing to commence their operations in several places at the same time.

His Catholic majesty, with his superior council of Castile, has further granted to the company by the said royal cedulla, in full property and for ever, 53 Castilian varas, being 22½ French toises, of the land on each side of the said canal, making together a superficies of 11,160 fanegas of land. The Company are to plant this space with lemon, orange, mulberry, and olive-trees, the last mentioned to be the most numerous. Corn, saw, and fulling mills, lavatories for linen, and, in short, all other manufactories, or works of public utility, for which the various points of the canal are adapted, are to be also established along its banks. This ground, when thus brought into value, has been estimated, by comparison with other land of the same nature, to be worth 800 piastres per fanega. Taking it however only at one half of this valuation, the landed property thus secured to the company forms a capital equal to 16,740,000 livres tournois, and is so much tangible security to the lenders.

By the said cedulla the company have likewise obtained a grant of all mines that may be discovered in the scite of the canal, and in the 53 varas of land on each side of it granted to them; the exclusive privilege of the navigation and fishery of the canal for the space of one hundred and ten years, and after that time permission for ever to have twenty vessels on the canal, of the largest size of which it may be susceptible, free of all duties; the free use of the public and private stone quarries along its course; the right of grazing their cattle in the public pastures; the unrestrained liberty of exporting provisions free of duty; together with many other privileges and immunities unnecessary to detail in this place. It is here, however, worthy of observation, that the duties for watering the land, calculated at the very lowest, and deducting all costs of management, and the annuities on the projected loan, will leave a balance, in favour of the Company, of 2,937,000 livres per annum, as appears by the accompanying estimate; and that, in consequence of the measures adopted for carrying on the canal, which will be finished in six years, the revenues or profits will commence after the third year, when it is calculated they will amount to two millions of livres, and thenceforward be progressively increasing.

The Company must render an annual account to the director of the funds and revenues of the canal, and to the superior council of

Castile; in order to secure the payment of the annuities, which are always to be paid free of all charges and deductions whatever, both in peace and in war, to the respective shareholders of whatsoever nation or religion; His Catholic majesty, and his superior council of Castile, having made the requisite renunciations to that effect by the said cedulla.

At the offices opened for the negotiation of this loan are deposited for the inspection of the public,—The cedulla of his Catholic majesty, with a plan of the canal; the deed of mortgage by the company, of the canal, its revenues, attendant grans, properties and privileges; the act of engagement of the company, and the statutes for the management of the same; survey, and statement of the prime cost of the canal; powers by which the offices are respectively authorised to negotiate the loan; and—certificates of the conformity of all these documents to the originals at Madrid."

Then follows a detailed plan of the mode adopted for raising this loan, too minute for complete insertion, but some particulars of it deserve notice from their whimsical nature.

The shares were 60 French livres each, and 250,000 in number, the annuities on which were fixed by lottery in the following singular manner.

For the first two years 900,000 livres were to be paid annually as interest, divided into 250,000 unequal shares, like one of our lottery schemes, as 1 share of 20,000 livres, 1 15,000, 1 of 10,000, 2 of 2,400, 3 of 1,800, of 5 of 1,000, 8 of 720, 12 of 500, 20 of 300, 25 of 200, 40 of 100, 50 of 60, 60 of 36, 70 of 30, 100 of 24, 200 of 12, 300 of 9, 500 of 7. 4s., 600 of 6, 1,000 of 5, 2,000 of 4. 10s., 5,000 of 4, 30,000 of 3. 8s., 60,000 of 3. 5s., and 150,000 shares of 3 livres;—For the next two years 1,050,000 livres per annum interest divided in smaller unequal shares;—For the next two years 1,200,000 livres per annum divided in the same manner,—for the next two years 1,500,000 livres per annum; and for the fifth class 1,800,000 livres per annum, also similarly divided, which was thenceforward to be the regular annuity until the death of the person upon whose life it was made payable.

To determine the individual quantum of annuity to be paid to each shareholder, this complicated lottery was drawn at Madrid in January 1776. 250,000 numbered tickets representing the 250,000 shares which were all numbered, when sold or appropriated, were put into one wheel, and into each of five other wheels, tickets specifying the 250,000 dissimilar annuities of each class, as stated in the plan. A number being drawn out of the first wheel a ticket was drawn successively from each of the other wheels, by

which the annuities to be paid to that individual shareholder were determined; as for example No. 17,525 drew for the first class, or first two years' payment, the annual sum of three livres; for the next two years the annual sum of 10,000 livres; for the next two years that of 50 livres; for the next two years that of 5 livres; and for the last class that of 6 livres, which thenceforward continued to be the fixed annuity on that share until the death of the party.

Estimate of the Revenues of the Canal.

The lands to be watered by the canal form an extent of 450,000 fanegas. Although it is not customary in Spain to let the ground lie fallow every other year, yet, not to depart from the letter of the cedulla, which, by the 50th article of the same, supposes that the lands to be benefited will be sown one year and will lie fallow the next, the Company only calculate upon one half of the extent that may be watered, that is on 225,000 fanegas to be sown annually.

In the kingdom of Murcia it is very well known that a fanega of land usually produces about 36 fanegas of corn each weighing 100lb. which is the produce of the land in its present unwatered state; while, when the rain is but moderately seasonable, it yields still more. Although therefore there is reason to hope that the soil, when duly irrigated, will be more productive; yet, to avoid every appearance of exaggeration, the Company take no more than 18 fanegas or 1800lb. weight of corn as the average produce of each fanega of sown land; and, according to that calculation 225,000 fanegas of land will yield 4,050,000 fanegas of corn. The Company being authorised to levy various proportions of the produce of the soil for their watering dues during the 110 years of their charter, as before detailed, calculate upon an average to receive one eighth of the crop of corn, which on 4,050,000 fanegas amounts to 506,250 fanegas per annum. Though much barley is sown in Spain, yet as the crop of that grain generally produces twice the measure of that of wheat, and as barley, by being generally used as provender for cattle, (and its straw for litter), bears a comparatively higher value than elsewhere; the whole of the crop is taken as if it were wheat. A fanega of wheat in Spain is generally worth 45 reals, and when it is as low as 32 its exportation is allowed*; but as a future abundance may cause a diminution in price, the company only calculate upon 28 reals or equal to 7 livres of French money, which on 506,250 fanegas, makes

* This of course refers to the time of the projection of the canal in 1775.

an amount in livres of 3,543,750

Next, the second crop, consisting of beans, lentiles, pease, great and small millet, barilla, hemp, flax, saffron, wood for staves, &c. of which for watering duty $\frac{1}{8}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{6}$ and $\frac{1}{12}$ of the crop is respectively payable to the Company, must at least produce one half of the first crop, but the Company, including in this item the profits to be derived by themselves from the navigation and fishery of the canal, and from the mills, &c. to be erected by them along its banks, take for these accumulated objects only one third of the crop of grain, or

1,181,250

Lastly, the 52 varas of land on each side of the canal, granted in perpetuity to the Company, and extending to 11,160 fanegas, constitute, as has before been made appear, a capital of the value of 16,740,000 livres. The olives, and other articles of cultivation, planted on this space will of course receive the utmost benefits of irrigation, and may fairly be supposed to yield ten per cent. per annum upon the estimated value of the soil; but only five per cent. is calculated or

837,000

Annual revenue in livres

5,562,000

Whence is to be deducted so much to be annually paid to the town of Lorca, for the use of their waters, which the Company have contracted for at livres

37,500

Annual expenses of management, of collecting the revenues, salaries of clerks, &c. taken at twice the amount at which the same have been calculated

587,500

The yearly annuities to be paid to the shareholders of the loan, which will decrease annually after the ninth year, but which are here taken at the highest rate being 1,800,000 livres per annum, with the addition of charges

2,000,000

— 2,625,000

Annual nett revenue, livres

2,937,000

The flattering prospects held out by this prospectus were in part realised, but, instead of six years, on which the undertakers calculated, or of ten, which the royal cedula had

allotted, as the term in which the canal was to be completed, it was not wholly finished sixteen years afterwards, namely in the year 1791, at which time, either on account of a deficiency in the revenues of the canal for its expences and annuities, or of the intrigues arising from the favouritism that then especially became predominant in Spain, the purchase of all the annuities from the remaining annuitants was proposed by the court of Spain, upon what the shareholders considered as very inadequate terms. This measure was grounded, according to the declaration then made by the court, upon the usurious nature of the loan, and the immoderate advantages derived by the shareholders. Many remonstrances were made against it, some of the concerned acquiesced, but others resisted; while the distracted state of politics and finance, throughout Europe, almost immediately following, prevented a final or permanent arrangement. In the meantime, the payment of the annuities was suspended. The canal though not completed in 1791, was carried on from Lorca to Carthagena, was in activity, and of great acknowledged utility. The remaining part from Carthagena to cape Palos was not even begun.

The expences of digging the canal, and of its annual management had very much surpassed the estimate made, but, on the other hand, it appears that the revenues of the Company arising from the watering dues, and their exclusive navigation and fishery, as far as the canal went answered their most sanguine expectations. They had hurt themselves, however, by several abortive attempts at manufactories, mills, &c.

Dr. Ingenhousz, so well known and justly celebrated for his chemical and philosophical researches, was a considerable shareholder in this loan, and it may not be uninteresting to peruse the following translation of a letter written by him in 1791 from London to Messrs. Isaac van Eyk & Co. of Amsterdam, who were concerned for the Dutch shareholders, in remonstrating against the forced redemption of their annuities.

Gentlemen,

I received some months ago a printed circular advertisement, dated Madrid, 28th Jan, 1791, and signed F. Xavier Menzano; the purport of which was a public summons to all the concerned in the loan on the canal of Murcia, to abandon their right to the major part of their property in that loan, accompanied by an undisguised threat, that, in case of refusal, the whole would be annihilated. What was the more surprising, was that those threats were immediately put into execution by a formal refusal to pay the annuities which were due before the intimation of those threats. According to the laws of our republic, writers of incendiary letters for the

purpose of extorting money, are condemned to the wheel. The perusal of this unwarrantable advertisement must convince every man of common sense, that it must have been penned either by a malignant madman, or by a man void of every sentiment of honour and probity. His pretence that, after it had remained for fifteen years a profound secret, it had at length been discovered that this transaction was an usurious one, would deserve only contempt were it not for the malice concealed under it. The assertion that the king is determined to maintain inviolate all his contracts and obligations, is strangely contrasted by this disgraceful infraction of all that is esteemed sacred in human society; the royal word, public faith, and the pledge of a sufficient mortgage bound for the fulfilment of the conditions proposed and agreed upon. Several French loans are much more advantageous than that on the canal of Murcia. I scarcely receive seven per cent. from it, when I take into consideration the trifling annuity paid the first seven years. All these declamations, however, are only meant to varnish over an intentional infraction of good faith, and an infamous bankruptcy, and that made public in a way very prejudicial to the good fame of the Spanish nation, and to the religion and virtues of its monarch. If any one ought to be punished for malversation of funds, it ought to be the imbecile adventurers or contractors for the canal, and not the innocent widows, orphans, and others, who have advanced their money upon the most specious representations. But the king of Spain is wholly ignorant of this dishonest transaction, which is attempted to be effected in his name. He is an enemy to all injustice: but the French *propaganda* have their emissaries in Spain as well as here, in Germany, and indeed everywhere, who exert all their energies to represent all kings as tyrants; and it is very probable that the adviser of such a fraudulent measure is one of those emissaries, seeking to bring about a revolution, by rendering a good king detested for want of integrity.

Yesterday I received a second threatening letter, dated Madrid the 14th May 1791, and signed F. Xavier Menzano. This, as well as the former, cannot be any other than a false and unauthorised measure. The compiler of this deserves imprisonment, as there is no trace of common sense to be found in it. What have the concerned to do with the account of receipts and disbursements? There was no mention made of this in the conditions proposed to, and approved of, by us; much less was there in them any intimation, that, after receiving the annuities agreed upon, for the term of sixteen years, the concerned would be obliged to prosecute their right to any further payment in a Spanish

court of justice, the judges of which could not be able to give any but a partial decision, as is plainly intimated in this threatening letter.

Messrs. Fries & Co. and the other concerned at Vienna, have, together with myself, absolutely refused to recede from our right, being convinced that such unexampled injustice, and infraction of public faith could not originate with the king, but is the plan of a dishonest minister. In my opinion the concerned in Holland ought positively to refuse their consent to any conditions which would be hurtful to the reputation, and contrary to the honourable sentiments of the king, and would cast on his Catholic majesty, who is a pattern of religion and virtue, the imputation of such detestable perfidy. It is only by determined resolution in opposing his designs, that the faithless minister can be exposed as a man void of every sense of honour, and deserving of adequate punishment. By a letter I received a few days ago from an intimate friend of the king of Spain, I am assured that that monarch is wholly ignorant of this infamous business, and that *his majesty has much at heart to maintain an inviolate good faith in all his undertakings.*

I am, with perfect esteem, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

I. INGENHOUZ,

Counsellor and body-physician to their Imperial and Royal majesties

London, 23d October 1791.

MORTUARY MEMOIRS OF EMINENT PERSONS.

No. II.

BISHOP HOPKINS'S CHARACTER OF THE
HON. ALGERNON GREVILLE,

Who died very young, in 1662.

The whole life of this noble person, was a more serious preparation for death, than most men's dying thoughts.

He well knew that the nobility of his extraction would be no excuse to him from the peremptory summons of death; neither did he make it any excuse to him from an industrious and strict preparation for it. This he testified by the series of his whole life; in which there evidently appeared such an awe of God, and a real sense of true piety and religion, as clearly evinced that he had strong and habituated meditations of that great levelling day, wherein the highest shall stand upon no higher ground than the meanest.

He did not think religion any stain to his honour, nor minding heaven to be the employment of those only who have nothing on earth.

Indeed, irreligion and atheism are now

reckoned as a piece of good breeding, among the great ones of the world; it is now counted as a sign of a degenerate and low sunk spirit, to acknowledge even God himself for their superior. Those are cried up as the wits of the time, who can daringly dispute it against whatsoever is sacred in Christianity; yea, against the being of God himself. It is now become an argument of a judicious and gallant mind, to call into question the most fundamental maxims of our faith; and the authority too of those holy oracles, which confirm them. Reason alone is extolled as the best and most sufficient guide, both in matters of belief and of practice; and they appeal to that for their judge, which commonly, by their debauches and intemperances, they either so corrupt that it will not discern the truth, or else so sot and stupified that it cannot. And, thus, as the moon shines brightest when it is at the greatest opposition to the sun, these think their reason then shines brightest, when it stands at the greatest opposition to God.

This noble person, whose reason had as fleet a wing and could soar as high a pitch as any of theirs who pretend to nothing above it, yet saw it reason to give his faith the precedence, and always found more acquiescence in a *Thus saith the Lord*, than in the most critical researches, and positive conclusions of his reason. So reverend an esteem had he for those sacred dictates of Scripture, that, though his wit and parts shone forth to admiration in whatsoever he pleased to employ them about, yet he never presumed to exercise them on that common-place of abusing divine verities: he was not ambitious to commence a wit, by blasphemy; nor did he pretend to ingenuity, by being impious. But, whereas too many use their wit in jesting at them, he shewed his holy wisdom in believing and obeying. Other books he made the ornament of his mind: this, the guide of his life. He knew what others, but did what God spake.

He was not made a Christian out of old heathens; nor owed his virtues to the sage precepts of Plutarch or Epictetus. These are now become the penmen and evangelists of our young gentry: Seneca is with them preferred before St. Paul, though his chief credit be that he wrote so well that some have mistakingly thought him Paul's disciple. The virtue of this noble person acknowledged a more divine original; being formed in him by the same spirit, that gave him rules to act it. This taught him to outstrip, in true wisdom, temperance, and fortitude, not only whatsoever those starchy moralists did, but whatsoever they wrote; and, whereas they prescribed but the exercise of virtue, he sublimed it, and made it grace.

Next to his absolute subjection to God, was his obedience unto his honourable, and now

disconsolate mother: wherein he was to such a degree punctual, that, as her wisdom commanded nothing but what was fit, so his duty disputed not the fitness of things beyond her command. His demeanour towards her was most submissive: and towards all so obliging, that it was but the same thing to know and admire him.

His converse gave the world a singular pattern of harmless and inoffensive mirth; of a gentility, not made up of fine clothes and hypocritical courtship; a sweetness and familiarity, that, at once, gained love and preserved respect; a grandeur and nobility, safe in its own worth, nor needing to maintain itself by a jealous and morose distance.

Never did vice, in youth, find a more confirmed goodness. So impregnable was he against the temptations, which gain an easy access to those of his rank and quality, that they could neither insinuate into him by their allurements, nor force him by their importunities.

Nor did he think it enough to secure his mind from the infection of vice, unless also he secured his fame from the suspicion of it. Some, indeed, owe their innocence to their dullness and stupidity; and are only not vicious, because not witty enough to be takingly and handsomely wicked. His virtue was of choice; and the severest exercise of it mingled with such charms from his parts and ingenuity, that his very seriousness was more alluring, than those light divertisements in others which entice only because they please.

His apprehension was quick and piercing, his memory faithful and retentive, his phantasie sprightly and active; and his judgment overruling them all, neither prejudicated by vulgar opinions, nor easily coused by varnished and plausible errors.

After all this, there can be nothing wanting to make up a most compleat and absolute person, but only industry to quicken his parts, and time to ripen both to perfection.

His industry was remarkable, in the assiduousness of his studies: where he spent not his hours in plays or romances, those follies of good wits; but in the disquisition of solid and masculine knowledge: in which he outstript even those, who were to depend upon learning for their livelihood; and had no other revenue, than what arose out of their fruitful and well cultivated brains.

And, as for that other, I mean time, to mature these growing hopes, Providence hath denied it: by a sudden and surprizing stroke cutting off his days, and thereby rendering that virtue, those parts, that industry, useless to us in any thing but the example, and I should say unprofitable to him too, but only that which he never had opportunity to employ in this world, hath I doubt not, fitted him for a better.

LORD BURGHELEY'S PRECEPTS.

The following are the Ten Precepts which William, Lord Burghley, Lord High Treasurer of England, gave to his second son Robert Cecil, afterward Earl of Salisbury.

Son Robert,

The virtuous inclinations of thy matchless mother, by whose tender and godly care thy infancy was governed, together with thy education under so zealous and excellent a tutor, puts me in rather assurance than hope, that thou art not ignorant of that *summum bonum*, which is only able to make thee happy, as well in thy death as life; I mean, the true knowledge and worship of thy Creatour and Redeemer: without which all other things are vaine and miserable. So that, thy youth being guided by so sufficient a teacher, I make no doubt but he will furnish thy life with divine and moral documents. Yet, that I may not cast off the care becomming a parent towards his child; or that thou shouldst have cause to derive thy whole felicity and welfare rather from others than from whence thou receivest thy breath and being; I think it fit and agreeable to the affection I beare thee, to help thee with such rules and advertisements for the squaring of thy life, as are rather gained by experience, than by much reading. To the end, that entering into this exorbitant age, thou mayest be the better prepared to shunne those scandalous courses, whereunto the world and the lack of experience may easily draw thee. And, because I will not confound thy memory I have reduced them into ten precepts; and, next unto *Moses'* tables, if thou imprint them in thy mind, thou shalt reap the benefit, and I the content. And they are these following:

I. When it shall please God to bring thee to man's estate use great providence and circumspection in chusing thy wife. For from thence will spring all thy future good or evil. And it is an action of life, like unto a stragem of warre: wherein man can erre but once. If thy estate be good, match near home and at leisure; if weak, far off and quickly. Enquire diligently of her disposition, and how her parents have been inclined in their youth. Let her not be poore, how generous soever. For a man can buy nothing in the market with gentility. Nor chuse a base and uncomely creature altogether for wealth; for it will cause contempt in others and lothing in thee. Neither make choice of [a] dwarf or [a] fool; for by the one thou shalt beget a race of pigmies; the other will be thy continual disgrace, and it will yrke thee to hear her talk. For thou shalt find it, to thy great grief, that there is nothing more fulsome than a she fool.—And touching the guiding of thy house, let thy hospitalitie be moderate; and, accor-

dine to the meanes of thy estate, rather plentiful than sparing, but not costly. For I never knew any man grow poore by keeping an orderly table. But some consume themselves through secret vices, and their hospitalitie bears the blame. But banish swinish drunkards out of thine house, which is a vice impairing health, consuming much and makes no shew. I never heard praise ascribed to the drunkard, but [for] the well-bearing [of] his drink, which is a better commendation for a brewer's horse or a dray-man, than for either a gentleman or [a] serving man. Beware thou spend not above three of four parts of thy revennewes; nor above a third part of that in thy house. For the other two parts will do more than defray thy extraordinaries, which always surmount the ordinary by much; otherwise thou shalt live like a rich beggar, in continual want. And the needy man can never live happily, nor contentedly. For every disaster makes him ready to mortgage or sell. And that gentleman who sells an acre of land, sells an ounce of credit: For gentility is nothing else but antient riches. So that, if the foundation shall at any time sinke, the building must needs follow. So much for the first precept.

II. Bring thy children up in learning and obedience, yet without outward austerity. Praise them openly, reprehend them secretly. Give them good countenance and convenient maintenance according to thy abilitie, otherwise thy life will seeme their bondage, and what portion thou shalt leave them at thy death, they will thank death for it and not thee. And I am perswaded that the foolish cockering of some parents, and the over-stern carriage of others, causeth more men and women to take ill courses, than their own vicious inclinations. Marry thy daughters in time lest they marry themselves: and suffer not thy sonnes to pass the ALPES. For they shall learne nothing there but pride, blasphemy, and atheism. And if by travell they gett a few broken languages, that shall profit them nothing more than to have one meat served in divers dishes. Neither, by my consent, shalt thou train them up in warres. For he that sets up his rest to live by that profession can hardly be an honest man or a good Christian. Besides, it is a science no longer in request then use. For souldiers in peace are like chimnies in summer.

III. Live not in the country without corn and cattle about thee. For he that putteth his hand to the purse for every expence of household, is like him that keepeth water in a sieve. And, what provision thou shalt want, learn to buy it at the best hand. For there is one penny saved in four; betwixt buying in thy need, and when the markets and seasons serve fittest for it. Be not served with kinsmen, or friends, or men intreated to

stay, for they expect much and doe little; nor with such as are angrous, for their heads are intoxicated. And keep rather two too few than one too many. Feed them well, and pay them with the most; and then thou may'st boldly require service at their hands.

IV. Let thy kindred and allies be welcome to thy house and table. Grace them with thy countenance and farther them in all honest actions. For by this meanes thou shalt so double the band of nature, as thou shalt find them so many advocates to plead an apology for thee behind thy back. But shake off those glow-worms, I mean parasites and sycophants, who will feed and lawn upon thee in the summer of prosperitie, but, in an adverse storme, they will shelter thee no more then an arbour in winter.

V. Beware of suretyship for thy best friends. He that payeth another man's debts, seeketh his own decay. But, if thou canst not otherwise chuse, rather lend thy money thyself upon good bonds, although thou borrow it. So shalt thou secure thyself and pleasure thy friend. Neither borrow money of a neighbour or a friend, but of a stranger, where, paying for it, thou shalt hear no more of it. Otherwise thou shalt eclipse thy credit, lose thy freedom, and yet pay as dear as to another. But in borrowing of money be precious of thy word. For he that hath care of keeping dayes of payment is lord of another man's purse.

VI. Undertake no suit against a poor man without receiving much wrong. For besides [that] thou makest him thy compeer, it is a base conquest to triumph, where there is small resistance. Neither attempt law against any man before thou be fully resolved that thou hast right on thy side: and then spare not for either money or paines. For a cause or two so followed and obtained will free thee from suits a great part of thy life.

VII. Be sure to keep some great man thy friend, but trouble him not for trifles. Compliment him often with many, yet small gifts, and of little charge. And if thou hast cause to bestow any gratuity, let it be something, which may be daily in sight. Otherwise, in this ambitious age, thou shalt remain like a hop without a pole, live in obscurity, and be made a foot-ball for every insulting companion to spurn at.

VIII. Towards thy superiors be humble, yet generous: with thine equals familiar yet respective. Towards thine inferiors shew much humanity, and some familiarity, as to bow the body, stretch forth the hand, and to uncover the head, with such-like popular compliments. The first prepares thy way to advancement. The second makes thee knowne for a man well bred. The third gains a good report, which once got is easily kept. For right humanitie takes such deep root in the minds of the multitude, as they are easier

gained by unprofitable courtesies, then by churlish benefits. Yet I advise thee not to affect or neglect popularitie too much. Seeke not to be *Essex*: shunne to be *Ranleigh*.

IX. Trust not any man with thy life, credit, or estate. For it is meer folly for a man to enthrall himself to his friend, as though, occasion being offered, he should not dare to become the enemy.

X. Be not scurrilous in conversation, nor satyricall in thy jests. The one will make thee unwelcome to all company: the other pull on quarrels, and get the[e] hated of thy best friends. For suspicious jests (when any of them savour of truth) leave a bitterness in the mindes of those which are touched. And, albeit I have already pointed at this inclusively; yet I think it necessary to leave it to thee as a speciall caution. Because I have seen many so prone to quip and gird, as they would rather loose their friend than their jest. And if perchance their boiling braine yield a quaint scoffe, they will travell to be delivered of it, as a woman with child. These nizable fancies are but the froth of wit.

THE GATHERER.

No. IX.

I am but a Gatherer and Disposer of other Mens' Stuff.—WOTTON.

A Curious Sermon.

Mr. Haynes, a minister at Rutland, in America, wishing to counteract the attempts of a preacher who had been zealously holding forth in favour of universal salvation, has published a curious sermon founded on Gen. iii. 4. 'And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die;'—in which he observes, that our first parents were perfectly happy in Paradise until a certain preacher, in his journey, came that way, and disturbed their tranquillity, by endeavouring to reverse the prohibition of the Almighty. The plan of the sermon is—to consider the character of the old serpent as a preacher,—the doctrine he inculcated,—the hearer addressed,—and the medium or instrument of the preaching. He describes the preacher as 'An old preacher—a very cunning, artful preacher,—a very laborious, unwearied preacher,—a heterogeneous preacher,—a very presumptuous preacher,—and, a very successful preacher.'

Of Folly in former Days: with Hints in Vindication of it in Days of Yore.

The Festival of Fools was one of those insensate mummeries which a small effort of ordinary understanding might have exposed to condemnation among rational men. Nevertheless, it was patronized by those who boasted of possessing the wisdom as well as the learning of their age. It was celebrated

not only by the monks, but by the religious. It obtained popularity *even* in England, says a French writer. Spain, Germany, Italy, adopted it with transport: and there still exist in divers places traces and remains of the extensive prevalence and exquisite enjoyments of which this said festival could boast. As we are of opinion that

Dulce est desipere in loco,

and that thus to play the fool well—*à propos* we mean, so as to entitle the player to the proper *Encomium Moriae*, (superior to that of Erasmus) — requires no trivial portion of wit, we have some thoughts of endeavouring to relieve the present time from that striking deficiency in folly, which is apparent to every observer, and equally regretted.—Whether we shall prefer the re-establishment of the ancient festival, or shall have recourse to some more novel institution, must remain undetermined, till we have seen the effect of the following *conclusive* train of argument, and justificatory ratiocination.

The Sorbonne in 1244, thought proper to question the propriety of this popular pastime: from the answer put in by one of its apologists, a council of the highest reputation, we abstract the principal arguments. Had he been so fortunate as to have lived in this enlightened age, he might have found others, much more convincing and cogent.

“Our predecessors, most reverend doctors, who were unquestionably grave, solemn, and holy personages, were punctual in their celebration of this festival. Can we pretend to be more holy than they? or can we be conformed to better examples? Moreover, folly, which is natural to us, and which indeed is born with us, is, by this gentle and delightful recreation, dissipated at least once in every year. We know well, that barrels filled with wine would burst, were not their bung-holes opened from time to time to give vent to the vapours of the liquor; we are barrels, not too well or too closely bunged, and liable to bursting also, from the action of the most powerful wine of wisdom, with which we are filled,—completely filled,—if we, by indulging incessant devotion, should suffer it to overflow. Of mere necessity, therefore, we must sometimes give air and vent to a liquor so highly flavoured and spirituous; for indeed our dread is, lest it should explode, flow abroad, and be lost! irretrievably and unprofitably lost!”

It was but fair that the fools of the day should form themselves into a body, and elect a chief or commander. He took the name of *Prince*, the Prince of Fools: his distinguishing ornament was a hood with asses' ears; and he had his yearly pageants, when his parade was attended by all his officers, according to their ranks; and by a portion of his vassals and subjects.

The Prince of Fools, on one occasion, authorised by his permission a company of religious to play “*folies* :” and they in return authorised him and his adherents to play *farces* and *moralities*.

Farces and *moralities* were invented after the *mysteries*; and indeed were an elusion of the rights of a class of religious who were privileged to perform mysteries. They were light, comic, whimsical, and at length satirical.

A very extraordinary incident is related in the history of Sweden written in Swedish, by Dalin. It took place at the representation of a mystery of the Passion, under king John II. in 1513.

The actor who performed the part of Longinus, the soldier who was to pierce the Christ on the cross in the side, was so far transported by the spirit of his action, that he really killed the man who personated the Christ; who falling suddenly, and with great violence, overthrew the actress who represented the Holy Mother. King John who was present at this spectacle, was so exceedingly enraged against Longinus that he leaped on the stage and struck off his head. The spectators who had been delighted with the too violent actor, became infuriated against their king, fell upon him in a throng and massacred him.—This may stand as an example of the power of dramatic representation; but it argues little in favour of the moderation and solemnity inspired by such sacred subjects. They much more certainly gratified curiosity than devotion.

Parish Clerks our antient Actors.

Pennant, in speaking of the convent of the Black Nuns of the order of St. Benedict, in Clerkenwell, informs us, that,

The church was made parochial. Part of the cloisters remain, at least till very lately, as did part of the nuns hall. In very antient records it was styled, *Ecclesia Beate Marice de fonte Clericorum*, from a well near it, at which the Parish-Clerks of London were accustomed to meet annually to perform their mysteries, or sacred dramatical plays. In 1391, they performed before the king and queen, and whole court, three days successively. These amusements, with much more substantial peace-offerings, were presented to Richard, to divert his resentment against the good citizens, for a riot of no very great moment against the bishop of Salisbury. And in 1409, they performed the *Creation of the World*, which lasted eight days; and most of the nobility and gentry of England honored them with their presence. Near this well was another, called Skinners well, at which the Skinners of London hold, says Stow, “certain playes yeerely, plaid of holy scripture.”—Compare Panorama, Vol. VI. p. 288.

PARLIAMENTARY HISTORY.

CHAP. III.—*State of the Nation—Imprisonment for Debt—America—Spain—Orders of Council—Portugal—Duke of York—Lord Boringdon's Divorce—Traffic in Places—Sweden—Militia Bill—Commander-in-Chief—Temple Bar—Embezzlement of Public Money.*

House of Lords, Feb. 6.—Lord Boringdon's divorce bill introduced. Several East-India papers presented.

Feb. 7.—The Duke of Kent rose, in opposition to a rumour that had gone abroad, to declare, that no professional difference existed between him and the Commander-in-Chief: but that he not only loved the Royal Duke as a brother, but esteemed him in his high and important office.

Earl Grosvenor moved for a committee of the whole house, to investigate the late campaign in Spain, and the state of the nation. He discussed a variety of topics; and acknowledged, that should he succeed, he intended an address to his Majesty to dismiss his present ministers. His Lordship alluded to the French revolution, and the miseries it had brought upon Europe: we had happily escaped the ravages that desolated other countries, yet had been involved in war seventeen years, and had no hope of peace but by reducing France to distress. The wicked policy of Buonaparte enfeebled the minds of monarchs and people, before he attacked their power: he had done so with the emperor of Russia. He had led him to behold with complacency scenes at which he would formerly have revolted. His Lordship adverted to the affairs of Sweden; to late events in Spain, to our treaty with the junta, &c. &c.

The Duke of Montrose described the speech of the noble Earl as the most desultory he had ever heard: to comply with it was impossible, in his opinion. The disposition of our military affairs in Spain had been good and beneficial; witness the opening of the Tagus, and the diversion in favour of our allies.

Lord Darnley could not conceive on what ground the motion could be resisted.—England could never send an army into the heart of Spain equal to an effectual opposition of the French.

Lord Grenville was greatly surprised at opposition to the motion; a motion so fairly stated. The ministers had challenged inquiry: why not meet it?—He was astonished at the language held by the noble Duke, as if the interference of the house with ministers was improper. The house had interfered during the American war: it was their right so to do. The transactions in Sweden, Spain,

and Portugal, demanded explanation: this motion would effect that purpose.

The Lord Chancellor said, he had been acquainted with parliamentary proceedings twenty-five years, and had never known such a motion adopted. Ministers would willingly answer specific questions: but such a mass was too confused and too extensive for examination.

Lord Erskine supported the motion: considered the increase of the public burdens as an object of great solicitude.

Lord Liverpool contended, that the motion was so vague, that it was not even parliamentary. Similar motions had been made on occasion of misfortunes at Dunkirk, at the Helder, &c. but the noble Baron (Grenville) then in administration, had been completely adverse to them. They were calculated, in fact, to obtain no valuable purpose; but to baffle, and to confound.

Lord Moira adverted to the state of Spain, Sweden, America, &c.—to the difficulties experienced by trade—to the danger to the linen trade of Ireland from want of flax-seed, &c. As individuals, he highly esteemed many of his Majesty's ministers; but as a body, he thought them incapable, &c.

Lord Harrowby considered the sentiments dropped by certain noble Lords (Grenville and Moira) as calculated to extinguish the spirit of the people.—Lord Grenville in reply applauded the spirit of the nation, the greatness of the navy, &c.

Motion negatived without a division.

Feb. 9.—Council heard in behalf of Mr. Campbell, for his divorce bill. To prove the marriage, offered the testimony of Miss Sarah White, who, when very young, had seen a ceremony performed in Jamaica between the parties, which she was told was a marriage.—Council stopped by the Lord Chancellor, who said the House would not acquiesce in such proof.

Lord Auckland hoped all the correspondence with America would be laid before the House.

Lord Liverpool answered, that the American government had not given publicity to every paper: he therefore thought himself justified in following the same course.

Lord Moira moved, that the House resolve itself into a committee on the subject of imprisonment for debt. Anciently, previously to arrest, the debtor was summoned before a committee, in which the cause, and circumstances of the debt, were investigated. This laudable institution having fallen into disuse, a debtor was now at the individual mercy of his creditor: hence enmity, rivalry, or other base passions, might send a man to jail, where he might languish years before the cause of insolvency were proved. His Lordship wished to controul this power of caprice

in a creditor: not wholly to remove arrest; but to regulate it. Rather than experience delay, Lord M. would take the chair himself. Agreed.

Feb. 10.—Lord Auckland moved for the imports and exports of Ireland for the last three years; also, between Ireland and America, so far as could be made up; also for the instructions of the American government to its representatives in England and France: his intention was, to shew that the offers of retracting the embargo were similar to both countries.

Lord Liverpool presumed that such papers would appear: the existence of them was notorious.

Lord Grenville moved for Lord Grey's note on the Order in Council, dated Jan. 1, 1807.

Feb. 14.—Lord Boringdon's divorce bill received the royal assent, by commission.

Feb. 16.—Lord Darnley moved for papers, to shew the small number of cavalry sent to Spain, with the British army.—The Earl of Liverpool corrected the motion as to dates, &c. and moved for additional documents.

The Duke of Norfolk called the attention of his Majesty's ministers to the duty of securing the Spanish fleet at Cadiz from falling into the hands of the French, as that at Ferrol had done. He would send to the Spaniards arms and stores, but not men.

Feb. 17.—Lord Grenville proposed his motion for repeal of the Orders in Council. It might be in their Lordship's recollection that he had fully stated his opinion on a former occasion; but duty called on him to repeat his arguments, as the question involved the commercial, the financial, the political interests of this country, its morality, and its justice. He had formerly acknowledged a difference between the proposals made by America to Britain and to France: he now apologized for that error; and thought the proposals as similar as words could make them:—completely fair, impartial, or rather favourable to this country: importing, that if Britain did repeal her Orders in Council, and France did not repeal her decrees, America would go to war with France. The conduct of ministers was, therefore, highly blamable and impolitic; since, had we closed with the offer of America, we should have had her as an ally. His Lordship adverted to the forlorn condition of trade; exports were diminished £6,000,000: the necessity under which Ireland lay to procure 45,000 hogsheds of flaxseed; of which 35,000 came from America. We also had corn from America; as we did not grow enough for our own consumption.

Lord Bathurst thought it were better to impeach ministers at once, than to effect that purpose by a side wind, like the present motion. The Orders in Council could not cause the embargo in America, because they

were not known in that country till *three days AFTER* the embargo act was passed. The non-importation act was at that time a twelve-month old: America had indeed proposed to repeal the embargo, but not to repeal the non-importation act. The deficiency of £6,000,000 could not be imputed to the Orders in Council, since £4,000,000 were deficient before they existed. The scarcity of flax-seed was not so alarming as the noble Baron supposed: supplies from Canada might arrive in May or June; and great speculations had been entered into for abundance from the continent. Imports had lately increased. In 1807 the tonnage of our colonies in North America, was 14,434: but in three-quarters of 1808 it was 30,735. In 1807 were imported 16,299 loads of timber; in three-fourths of 1808, 40,122: in 1807, 652,000 staves: in 1808, 1,207,000. His Lordship thought, that neither our West-India islands, nor our European dominions, were so straitened as America expected: and that the Orders in Council would attain their object,—that of bringing France to reason.

Lord Melville thought the offer of America to take off the embargo was beneficial only to herself: were her request complied with, she would become the carrier of French property, as before. He hoped existing differences would be reconciled: but the pressure on Britain was not so great as to demand the interference proposed by this motion.

Lord Liverpool denied that the revenue of the country was sinking, or likely to sink: the surplus of the consolidated fund had increased, during the last three years, £3,835,000.

The house divided:—

Contents, 31; Proxies, 39: 70.—

Non-contents, 64; Proxies, 51: 115.

House of Commons, Feb. 6.—The Speaker delivered the thanks of the house to Major-General Fergusson.

Sir Arthur Wellesley moved for leave to bring in a bill to allow the privilege of franking to Irish archbishops and bishops.

Lord Temple moved for returns of men, money, stores, &c. sent to Spain and Portugal.

Mr. Whitbread introduced his motion relative to the office of chief secretary of Ireland. Sir Arthur Wellesley, while serving his country most gallantly in the field, could not perform the duties of his office in Ireland: yet that office was most efficient and important. The Right Hon. Gentleman was welcome to his pay and emoluments as a military officer; but not to his salary as chief secretary also. Mr. W. stated that his resolution was intended to prevent such incongruous offices being held together in future: he therefore moved, that the office of chief secretary of Ireland is an efficient office of the

highest responsibility, the emoluments of which ought not to be enjoyed by any person absent from the realm.

Sir Arthur Wellesley said, it was fully understood by the noble Duke (Richmond) at the head of affairs in Ireland, and by his Majesty's government here, that his acceptance of the office of chief secretary of Ireland was not to preclude him from military employment abroad, if occasion offered. The noble Duke might have filled up his place by a successor, but had very handsomely retained it for him. He begged leave to say, that the emoluments of the office were less considerable than was supposed, being subject to great and inevitable deductions. The establishment was very expensive; and had not been diminished during his absence. It was a circumstance not likely to occur again: as he should resign this appointment, if again called to serve his country abroad.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer observed that no inconvenience had been experienced in this instance.

Lord Henry Petty did not think that a good reason: but was satisfied with the assurances given.

Lord Castlereagh said he had foreseen no inconvenience to the public service during Sir Arthur's short absence, and had recommended no successor. Other officers had held similar appointments although distant from the immediate scene of their duty; Lord Cornwallis, for instance.

Mr. Whitbread briefly assented to what had been said in commendation of the Right Hon. General: but thought such things being in their nature improper ought to be noticed: lest bad precedents should be drawn from them. Withdrew his motion.

The House in a committee of ways and means;—the duties on malt and sugar, and the tax on pensions, were continued for the present and ensuing year; also £10,500,000 to be raised on exchequer bills, for the service of Great Britain.

Feb. 7.—Sir Samuel Romilly proposed a new clause to the equity debtor's bill, allowing persons now imprisoned to petition at next assizes.

Lord Henry Petty moved for the instructions from the admiralty board to Admiral Cotton, relative to the Russian Fleet at Lisbon. Also dispatches from Admiral Cotton, relative to the convention concluded with the Russian Admiral. — Correspondence between Lord Castlereagh and Sir Arthur Wellesley, relative to the equipments and state of the forces in Portugal. Also, other papers relative to the commissariat department of the army, and between the government of Ireland and the Irish commissary General.—Ordered.

Mr. Wardle's charges against the Duke of York, resumed. Several witnesses called, to

state the private character of Mrs. Clarke; as —Mr. Few, an upholsterer, who furnished her a Grecian lamp: and whose action against her for the money failed, as she pleaded her coverture; he obtained his money by threatening to publish a handbill to expose her.—Mr. Stowers, who knew her when she lived with her husband. Mr. Comrie, who had been her attorney: and who was commissioned by the D. of Y. to raise a loan of £10,000: but it failed.—Mr. Pearce, who denied the procuring of change for £100 bank note, for Mrs. C. with the D. of Y.'s knowledge. Capt. Huxley Sandon proved the mode pursued by himself and Col. French to obtain leave to raise 5,000 men: Mrs. Clarke to receive £1,000, and a guinea a man: the variations made in the levy at the war office; they lost by the speculation £3,800. Mr. Corri, music master, examined as to persons whom he had met at Mrs. Clarke's. Had burnt all papers received from Mrs. C., by her desire: acknowledged having introduced several applicants for military promotions to her—as Capt. Sandon, &c. had an imperfect knowledge of persons.

Mr. Dowler confessed that he had given Mrs. Clarke about five years ago, £1,000 for a place in the commissariat: had constantly evaded acknowledging by what means he obtained his situation, hoping it would ever remain a most profound secret: had suffered his friends to suppose that he was obliged to Sir Brooke Watson; but in truth, he had obtained his employment by Mrs. Clarke. Had known her eight or nine years: had occasionally advanced her money; had thought of this purchase at her request: hoped he had discharged the duties of his situation to satisfaction: had arrived from Lisbon but a few days. Witness was acknowledged to have behaved well in his office; and to be trustworthy.—Conversation on the mode of receiving persons into the commissariat; nothing discovered on the subject.

Mr. Grant had heard Col. French and Capt. Sandon say, that they had paid Mrs. Clarke £1,700.

Mrs. Clarke being called, pleaded indisposition, having been eight hours in attendance.—Mr. Yorke conceived, that to prevent her having any communication with the other witnesses, she should be committed to the custody of the sergeant at arms.—Lord Henry Petty concurred.—Mr. Rose concurred.—The Speaker then rose; admitted the power of the House to proceed at its discretion; but, was firmly of opinion that the liberty of the subject was not to be tampered with. There had been no occurrence of the kind since the days of queen Anne: therefore if precedents did exist, they must be antient, and not applicable to the present order of things.

Feb. 9.—House went into committee to

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extend the admiralty jurisdiction in Newfoundland, to the coast of Labrador. Bill ordered: on report.

Lord Boringdon's divorce bill, with a message, brought from the Lords.

Committee on the charges against the Duke of York, resumed.

Mr. Yorke justified his proposal for committing Mrs. Clarke to the custody of the serjeant at arms, by the precedent of Mathew Prior's commitment in the time of queen Anne, when the treaty of Utrecht was under consideration.—Mr. Sheridan presented a petition from Mr. Finnerty, whose name had been mentioned the evening before as in connection with Mrs. Clarke;—being under a prosecution by the Duke of York, he was apprehensive that imputations, the truth of which he denied, might prove injurious to him.

Mr. Sturges Bourne and Mr. Huskisson had examined papers in the treasury, where officers of the commissariat were appointed; but could make no discovery respecting Mr. Dowler.

Mrs. Clarke examined on Col. French's levy:—had received 500 guineas, of which the D. of Y. knew: paid it to Birkett the silversmith in part payment of a service of plate: the Duke paid the remainder. Gave the letters received on this subject (the levy) to the Duke. Had received £1,000 from Mr. Dowler: also other smaller sums; and once, a carriage, for a journey, when her own carriages were seized in execution. Was to receive £1,000 per annum from the Duke, this allowance was exhausted in servants and liveries; was constantly harassed for money; always pledging of property; and in dread of sheriffs' officers. Had hundreds of applications for her influence; had occasionally given a list of names: the D. discriminated who were proper persons, and who were improper: never circulated lists of prices.—[In the midst of this examination, a letter from a clergyman handed to Mrs. C. was read to the committee—the party who wrote it was also examined, but answered so strangely, that he was committed to the serjeant at arms. Afterwards, the opinion prevailing that he was deranged in his intellects, he was ordered to be discharged without paying his fees. He had several days before called on Mr. Adam, and other members who had declined seeing him.]

Col. Mc. Mahon stated to the committee that he had been induced by an anonymous letter received by the P. of Wales to visit a lady who affected to prevent a breach between the royal brothers. This lady afterwards proved to be Mrs. Clarke, who proposed that the D. of Y. should pay her debts, the promised annuity of £400 per annum, and that she would quit the kingdom. Had seen the

D. of Y. who replied—her conduct had been so abominable, he would not hear of her. Mrs. Clarke re-examined. Admitted that she had attempted to traffic in other promotions beside military;—Dr. Glasse was mentioned.—Rev. Mr. Beaseley mentioned—*unknown to themselves*. The D. of Y. had given her £1,300 for a service of plate: her debts exceeded £2,000.

Miss Taylor, had known and visited Mrs. Clarke eight or ten years: remembered hearing the D. of Y. say, in Mrs. C.'s house, that Col. French was always worrying him about his levy: and heard the D. ask Mrs. C. how the Col. behaved to her?

Mr. Parker, executor of Mr. Birkett, pawnbroker, produced the account of Mr. B.'s advancing £3,000 to Mrs. Clarke on a service of plate, in May 1804. The pledge was redeemed by drafts of the D. of Y. on Messrs. Coutts, at different times.

Mr. Donovan examined as to his negotiation for places with Mrs. Clarke; had attempted to purchase a writership to India—had applied for the deanery of Salisbury, or Hereford: offered £3,000. for Rev. Mr. Beaseley: the money to be raised by a subscription among several ladies of fashion, who wished to surprize that gentleman with his promotion.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer gave notice of his intention to propose an act for suppressing the scandalous traffic in places: to make advertisements of this description *penal*: the agent liable to prosecution: and to vacate all promotions so obtained.

Feb. 10.—Mr. G. Smith, in consequence of what had transpired last night, moved for a secret committee to inquire into the nomination to writerships, cadet-ships, &c. in the India company's service. His motion, he said, was supported by the unanimous voice of the India directors.—Mr. Grant seconded the motion: the directors had often endeavoured to trace the advertisements in the newspapers, offering such places; but had never succeeded. Had expelled one clerk for abusing the confidence of a director, in obtaining a nomination as for himself, but afterwards selling it. They were now investigating another case of the same nature.—Committee of fifteen members appointed.

Committee appointed to consider acts in force respecting broad-wheels—Army estimates, and number of recruits raised during last twelve months, presented.

Committee on the charges against the Duke of York, resumed.

Conversation among the members, respecting the mode of examining witnesses, &c.

Mr. Wardle produced Mr. Donovan's letters to Mrs. Clarke on the subject of—the deanery of Hereford, wanted for Dr. Glasse:—the deanery of Salisbury, wanted for Rev

Mr. Beazeley;—the inspectorship of the customs, wanted for Mr. H. Tobin;—a situation at Savannah [La Mar];—a paymaster-ship to a second battalion;—and a landing waiter's place. Mr. Donovan acknowledged they were his writing.

The Attorney General stated that he had just received a letter from General Clavering, desiring to be examined, as he could materially impeach Mrs. Clarke's testimony.—While the Gen. was waiting, Mr. Pearson, formerly servant to Mrs. Clarke, was re-examined concerning having procured change for £100 bank note: which he recollected: said he was liable to head aches so severe as to injure his memory.

Gen. Clavering examined, had called at Mrs. Clarke's to desire his name might not be mentioned by her. Had formerly received letters from Mrs. C. desiring him to recommend a Mr. Sumner, nephew to Mr. Sumner, member of that house, to his R. H. the D. of York.—But there was no such person,—the letters too, were absurd.—Mrs C. had also stated, that there existed a *new* regulation, that recommendations from members of parliament should be attended to; whereas the regulation was *old*.

The Marquis of Titchfield stated, that Rev. Mr. Beazeley had called on the Duke of Portland, Jan. 3, 1809: and left a letter, which contained a request to be promoted to the deanery of Salisbury: the Duke sent the letter to the Bishop of London; who answered, by lamenting that Mr. B. had already *two* chapels in his diocese, and hoping that the Duke would do justice to the church and the public.—Letters read.

Col. Lorraine, assistant military secretary to the Commander-in-Chief, proved the regularity of the authority given for Col. French's levy: and the alterations in the terms.

Mr. Donovan, examined on the promotion of Major Tonym: believed he first heard of it from Mrs. Clarke:—on the promotion of Major Shaw, now at the Cape of Good Hope;—Mrs. Hovenden procured that officer's promotion. Witness received £25 for effecting a promotion. Stated that Mrs. C. had told him Sir F. Burdett had offered £4,000, for the papers in her possession.—Capt. Dodd was also implicated in similar proposals.

Capt. Sandon examined on the promotion of Major Tonym said, Mrs. Clarke promised to effect it: £500 was held by Mr. Gilpin, army clothier, and on the Major's being gazetted was paid to Mrs. Clarke. Donovan received £25. Witness did not know, or believe, that the promotion was effected by the influence of Mrs. Clarke.

Mrs. Clarke examined. Acknowledged having recommended Capt. Tonym to the D. of York: received £500 for his promotion:

never threatened to publish her papers, unless the D. of York acceded to her terms: nor attempted to urge Donovan to assist her in so doing. Sir F. Burdett never applied for her papers: knows Capt. Dodd, but never talked about her papers to him: Col. Mc. Mahon had visited her in consequence of a note she had written to the Prince of Wales: the Col.'s behaviour was soothing: laid the blame of her embarrassments on Mr. Adams.—A Mr. Maltby was assistant in the traffic in promotions: a Mr. Dawson: a Mr. Ludowyck, in Essex: Maltby knew about him. Must consult her papers for other names.

Mr. Wardle being examined;—had once seen Maltby: knew of his concern in one instance: but Maltby was too *deep* for him, and would not acknowledge more.

Col Gordon produced the recommendations of Capt. Tonym, from General Tonym, his father: also a memorial from the Capt. stating that he had been 24 years an officer; 14 years in active service. His Royal Highness concurred in his promotion. He was promoted among 53 officers of a like rank, in August 1804. So large a promotion (50 additional battalions being raised at that time) could not be kept secret. The purchase money for promotions exceeds £400,000 per annum. Col. G. accounted for the origin of promotions by purchase, and described it as being an old institution.

Feb. 14.—Lord Boringdon's divorce bill read a second time—committed—counsel heard,—witnesses examined.—House resumed—bill read a third time:—passed.

Mr. Baring moved for an account of value of exports and imports from Ireland, for three years, ending October 1808.—Also of timber, and cotton imported from America, for 1807, 8 and 9 to Jan. 5.—These returns being usually made up in March, doubtful whether they could be procured, at present.

Mr. Whitbread moved for copies of proceedings of American congress in its present session; Mr. Rose's mission; and the treaty with Sweden.

Charges against the Duke of York, resumed.

Mr. Maltby, an attorney, at Fishmongers-Hall, examined. Was introduced to Mrs. Clarke by Mr. Russell Manners, who married a sister of his wife: had the assignment of a debt of £1,200 due from government to Manners, which he was desirous of getting settled by Mrs. Clarke's interest with the D. of Y. Endeavoured at Mrs. Clarke's instance to procure a place of assistant commissary for Mr. Lodowyck: to pay for which £757 was deposited at Birch and Co's in Bond Street; where it remains. £600 to be paid to Mr. Tyndall, an agent, known to Mrs. Clarke. £157 to Lloyd, another attorney known also to Mrs. Clarke. Had applied to Tyndall, on

similar subjects. Never had any communication with the D. of Y. and could not account wherefore Mrs. Clarke employed him to effect promotions: went with Mrs. Clarke in a post chaise to the court martial at Colchester [where Mrs. C. passed herself off as a widow]. Had been engaged with Donovan in procuring a writership for India. Though a lawyer, did not know such procurations were illegal.

Mrs. Clarke produced letters from Mr. Maltby, Col. M'Mahon, and others: she had letters to prove that Gen. Clavering had applied to her for promotion;—she knowing him to be a distressed man, prevailed on the D. of Y. to make him a Brigadier-Gen. and to give him a district: had also, letters from the Bishop of Tuam, recommending Dr. O'Meara; and others from Col. Shaw, &c.

Mr. Dogherty proved payment for the service of plate bought at Birkett's; the first payment was £500: the rest in bills drawn by Mrs. Clarke on the D. of Y. who paid them by drafts on his banker: the whole amount £1821. 11s. 4d.

Mrs. Hovenden examined: had acted as agent in procuring official situations by means of Mrs. Clarke; especially in the affair of Major Shaw: always returned letters soon after receiving them. Would not describe the character of Miss Taylor, of her own knowledge. Thought herself bound in honour not to mention names of gentlemen who had applied to her; but, being informed of the authority of the House, mentioned two, Geo. Johnson, and William Williamson.

Mrs. Clarke examined on the affair of Maj. Shaw. He applied for a Lieut. Colonelcy: promised £1,000: the Commander-in-Chief, however, placed him in his present situation; deputy barrack master general at the Cape of Good Hope: he paid £500: which not being satisfactory, witness complained to D. of Y. who replied, that he had often warned her that Shaw would dupe her; but he would immediately put Shaw on half pay. Denied having gone by the name of Dowler; but, when in lodgings at Hampstead Mr. Dowler came to her, and passed for her husband; had seen Dowler at his hotel the night he arrived from Portugal; passed for his wife:—affirmed, that she had not received from D. of Y. during his intercourse with her, £20,000,—nor £15,000,—nor £12,000, besides her allowance of £1,000 *per annum*. Had got for the house £4,400. H. R. H. had given her the lease: he might advance a few hundreds, beside. Never saw the bills paid to Birkett: had pawned her diamonds while D. of Y. lived with her, as he knew. Had procured a commission from the D. for Sam. Carter her foot-boy, who waited on her and the Duke at table. He is now on the staff, in the West Indies. The D. knew of all her

traffic in commissions. The D. had paid for part of her furniture: Mrs. C. for the remainder.

Lord Castlereagh's militia bill, after some amendment, and a short opposition, read a third time, and passed.

Sir Sam. Romilly's bill for the relief of debtors in equity was read a third time, passed, and ordered to the Lords.

Mr. Barham moved for an account of the quantity of rum, and other foreign spirits imported into Ireland, from Jan. 5, 1806, with the amount of duties. Also an account of the number of illegal stills and the quantity of spirits illegally distilled, which have been seized in Ireland, since Jan. 1803.

Sir Arthur Wellesley brought in a bill for consolidating the Irish militia acts, which was read a first time.

Mr. W. Wynne moved for a return of the present state and numbers of the yeomanry cavalry in England, on the June and August establishments, as formed six years since, with a view to some regulation in their respective pay and appointments.—He stated, the great disparity of the pay allotted to the corps respectively; those on the June establishment receiving five pounds per month, and those on the August establishment but two pounds.

Charges against the D. of Y. resumed.

Mrs. Bridgeman of Vere Street examined as to Mrs. Clarke's butler desiring change of £100 bank note in July 1805.

Mr. Charles Shawe, proved paying in the shape of a loan to Mrs. Clarke £300, by desire of his brother Col. Shawe.

Col. Gordon reported the official progress of Col. Shawe, to the station of barrack master; and his immediate reduction to half pay: not singular in being appointed to half pay: no deviation from rule in behalf of Major Shawe. Never knew that Mrs. Clarke sold commissions: had endeavoured to trace abuses, but failed: had mentioned these abuses to the Duke, who instructed him to investigate them: endeavoured to oppose Frome, who, nevertheless, continued an army broker to a great extent, in spite of him: had suggested a clause in the mutiny bill to prevent that practice. Sam. Carter was recommended by Lieut. Sutton, Dec. 7, 1801: was appointed in March 1804. Produced the documents of Major Turner's resignation; [among them an interfering letter of Mrs. Lucy Sinclair Sutherland, opposing Major Turner's request to be permitted to resign.]

Mr. Nicholls of Hampstead, examined. Mrs. Clarke had lodged at his house: represented herself as a widow; but afterwards he understood she was married to Mr. Dowler, but she did not go by his name: Mrs. Clarke had not paid his demand when she left his house: had answered his application imper-

tinently, witness had threatened her with legal measures, but did not proceed: had in his possession a parcel of letters sent down stairs by Mrs. Clarke, for lighting the fire with; but preserved. [These letters were afterwards referred to a select committee, to ascertain which of them related to the matter before the House: such were brought forward.] Witness had refused to deliver them to an application made by Mrs. Clarke and others, but reserved them for the House.

Mr. Reid of a hotel in St. Martin's Lane, proved that Mrs. Clarke had visited Mr. Dowler: took her to be Mrs. Dowler. The same said the waiter, and the porter, at the hotel. Another charge rumoured, but not yet substantiated.

Feb. 15.—Mr. Leach from the select committee delivered the letters produced by Mr. Nicholls which referred to the subject under investigation.

Lord Folkstone stated the existence of papers in the hands of a solicitor who came by them as agent to a bankruptcy; they proved other cases of undue interference in promotions by the D. of Y.

The letters to Mrs. Clarke at Hampstead, read—from Sam. Carter: Feb. 20, 1804. Oct. 2, 1804, Jan. 4, 1805, intreating pecuniary assistance.—Letters from General Clavering to Mrs. Clarke: June 30, Sept. 5, Nov. 7, Dec. 12 and 20, 1804, relative to his military applications. Letters from Mr. Elderton, for whom Mrs. Clarke said she had procured a paymastership, by means of the D. of Y.—expressed great solicitude; one to D. of Y. extremely grateful for a favour received. Letters from Baroness Nollekens, very polite; returns thanks for favours from D. of Y. &c.

Thomas Walker, Mrs. Clarke's coachman, examined as to the station of Sam. Carter; said he went behind the carriage, and did the work of a footman; but not in livery. Mc Dowal, footman, examined: his evidence to the same effect.

Mrs. Favourite, Mrs. Clarke's housekeeper, examined. Recollected Sam. Carter; recollected sending out the £100 note to be changed at 11 o'clock one morning. Mrs. Clarke was always distressed for money: some tradesmen trusted her; others did not: was at great expences: sometimes three additional men cooks.

Mr. Greenwood, army agent, examined. From: had been a clerk in his office: knew of the appointment of Elderton to the paymastership; was desired to inquire his character by the D. of Y. his character apparently satisfactory, at first, afterwards objectionable: but the objections were removed, by Sir R. Abercrombie. Had heard Mrs. Sinclair Sutherland mention her intimacy with D. of Y.

Col. Gordon examined as to the exchange

between Col Knight, and Col. Brook: also, as to the effect of anonymous letters, at the office; said, they were often attended to.

Read a letter from Maj. Gen. Leith to Gen. Sir T. Musgrave, stating the estimable character of Major Corell, whose name had been mentioned during the examination.

Sir Arthur Wellesley stated that Major Shawe, from his long services, had strong claims to promotion.

Feb. 16.—Charges against the Commander-in-Chief resumed.

Lord Folkstone stated, that, in 1804 a plan for a loan of £70, or 80,000 to the D. of Y. was in agitation, by one Kennett, who had been a bankrupt twice, and had once stood in the pillory, for fraudulent proceedings toward the commissioners of bankrupts: in return for this loan he negotiated for a considerable situation at Surinam. Mr. Duff, solicitor to his bankruptcy, proved the authenticity of the letters, and other facts. The hand-writing being admitted by the members who wrote them, they were read; they proved to be mostly from Lieut. Col. Taylor, the Duke's secretary; also, from Mr. Adam, and Mr. C. Long; they referred to applications for various places, made by the Duke, to serve Kennett:—after a while Kennett's character was found out: and the loan, with his hopes, fell to the ground.

The House agreed unanimously that they could not hear Kennett, or receive his evidence, *visâ voce*. After long discussion in the committee on the subject of the letters received by Col. Wardle from Mrs. Clarke—The Chancellor of the Exchequer stated, that he had been aware for some days of the existence of a note on the subject of Major Tony's promotion, in the possession of Capt. Sandon, purporting to be from the D. of Y.: it had been shewn by Capt. Sandon to Col. Hamilton, who had taken a copy of it;—if it was a forgery, it would prove to what lengths Mrs. Clarke and her agents had carried their deception; if genuine, the D. must explain how it happened. Capt. Sandon, being examined, denied, and equivocated, but at last owned, the existence of this note:—at length, his prevarication became so apparent that he was ordered by the Speaker (the House being resumed for the purpose) into the custody of the serjeant at arms—in which custody he was sent to his apartments to fetch the note—which was afterwards produced, with others. Mrs. Clarke being examined as to any notes written by the D. of Y. respecting Tony's affair, denied all knowledge of such passing through her hands: never gave up any paper written by the Duke, till lately. Mr. Reid confronted with Mrs. Clarke, said he took her to be Mrs. Dowler, and always heard her called so. Mrs. Corri, acknowledged burning papers belonging to Mrs. Clarke.

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Capt. Sandon brought back and re-examined. Mrs. Clarke re-examined, as to her writing of several hands: her imitation of the D. of Y.'s hand-writing: her assisting her mother to write. Papers and letters referred to the same committee as the former.

Capt. Sandon committed to Newgate.

Feb. 17.—Alderman Combe brought up a bill for improvements at Temple Bar.

Mr. O'Hara moved for leave to regulate (and improve) the office of constable, in Ireland, by allowing a larger salary.

Sir John Newport moved for leave to render the embezzlement of public money, *felony*, without benefit of clergy.—It was answered, that this purpose, with sundry others, were intended to be included in one bill. The late defaulter, Mr. Connor, had gone off with only one week's collection; not £120,000, as had been said; and while the commissioner sent to inquire into his affairs, was actually in the town where he lived.

Mr. Leach brought up the report from the committee appointed to examine the letters found at Capt. Sandon's, they are all relevant to the subject under inquiry.

Read a letter from Lieut. Col. Tucker, vindicating the memory of his late brother Major Tucker: Sir Arthur Wellesley, spoke strongly in praise of that officer.

The proof of the hand-writing of the D. of Y. to the notes, &c. found, occupied a long time: Col. Gordon admitted some, doubted on others, the *short note* he thought only like the D. of Y.'s hand-writing. Of the same opinion was Gen. Brownrigg; Mr. Dickie, a clerk in the house of Coutts and Co. bankers: and Mr. Adam.

Mr. Town, when teaching Mrs. Clarke to paint velvet, had seen her imitate writing, which she said was the D. of Y.'s: but witness did not know it to be so.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer stated from authority that the D. had advanced by drafts, to Mrs. Clarke £5,550, which with other sums advanced, made £16,751 between Jan. 11, 1804, and May 15, 1806.

Mrs. Clarke was called to identify some of the letters: in sundry of them the allusions were marked only by initials, dashes, and obscure hints.

Capt. Sandon brought to the bar, and re-examined, about the *short note*: remanded to Newgate. These letters looked up: to be examined by clerk of the bank, post-office, &c. accustomed to compare hand-writings.

[They were examined by these gentlemen on the following day; each being shown them separately from the others to whose opinion they were submitted; and each being desired to conceal his opinion till he should be called to declare it to the House. Four or five thought the *short note* genuine: one thought the contrary.]

VOL. VI. [Lit. Pan. May 1809.]

THOUGHTS ON THE PROGRESS OF LITERARY ESTABLISHMENTS: WITH AN INSTANCE IN THE LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY OF NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

Literature is a plant of slow growth: it is one of those sciences in which deceptions are easily practised, and therefore perseverance is necessary in order to justify a favourable opinion on which success materially depends. Works of literature will be found in general to justify this observation; those which have been most lasting have usually been of progressive reputation: and literary institutions may be quoted in proof of the same gradual advance toward establishment. The first years of a literary society witness much weakness and uncertainty; afterwards, a few agreeable accessions enliven the hopes and expectations of those who interest themselves in its welfare: at length, the institution becomes popular; the liberal characters of the neighbourhood favour it; they subscribe, they attend the meetings, and each being serviceable in his place, the result of the whole is stability, and mutual encouragement.

We speak from personal knowledge of several such instances: but having lately been favoured by a friend (Mr. John Clennell) with the Reports of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Newcastle-upon-Tyne (an institution wherein we have experienced that liberality which ought not to be forgotten by occasional visitants), we select the reports of the last three years, in order to shew the progress of science, the laudable attention of the inhabitants of that town to literature, the subjects which have required regulation, and the general prosperity of the establishment, notwithstanding those losses and accidents to which all mundane affairs are liable.

The Report of the *thirteenth* year states the prosperous condition of the society; the increase of members and additions made to the library: with a mention of the principal subjects that had been treated on by lecture, exhibition, or otherwise. It is to the credit of the patrons of literature, that "A Letter, inclosing a copy of the Preliminary Discourse delivered to the Society of Antiquaries at Perth, by the Rev. James Scott, their president, was transmitted by Mr. Clennell, who at the same time announced, that the said society had agreed to reciprocate the privilege offered in our last report to the members of literary institutions and proprietors of public libraries. Similar communications have also been received from Felton, Ayr, Paisley, Greenock, and Kelso."

The expences this year were about £387, the receipts about £421.

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The Report of the *fourteenth* year complains heavily of the loss of books—detained, no doubt, by those who had borrowed them from the library, or by friends to whom they had lent them.

“The committee are concerned to state, that they have received complaints from several members, and have themselves had the mortification to observe, that many of the books belonging to the society are much disfigured by observations inserted in the margins, erasures, interpolations, and other liberties. This is a flagrant violation of the laws of the society, and a permanent injury to its property.

The practice of lending books to such as are not members of the society tends to deprive the society of all security for the recovery of its property, also materially injures its interest in other respects. Your committee have information on which they can depend, that persons have boasted that they had no occasion to be proposed as members, since they can already procure such books as they wish to see. When such a license is repeatedly taken, the committee cannot be too severe in enforcing the law against it.”

The receipts this year were £380.

From the *fifteenth* year's Report we learn, that “the committee have the satisfaction to announce, that the spirit of liberality, so natural a consequence of the more extensive diffusion of a taste for literary pursuits, continues to spread among the neighbouring societies; as appears from the annexed resolutions, transmitted by Mr. Meadley, the secretary to the Sunderland Subscription Library.* Such a disposition to afford mutual accommodation to the members of the different literary institutions of the district, cannot but be attended with the best effects.

Your committee beg leave also to announce, that the number of that class of members, which was instituted with a particular view to the admission of ladies to the privileges of the library, has this year considerably increased; and they believe they may safely appeal to the experience of every individual member, whether any inconvenience has arisen from such increase. Your committee therefore hope, that the objections which have been hitherto made to the institution of this class will not be any longer insisted upon.”

Receipts this year, £409.

* Sunderland Subscription Library annual general meeting, Feb. 2d, 1808. Stephen Pemberton, M. B. chairman. Resolved, that the members of the literary societies of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Durham, Darlington, North Shields, and South Shields, shall be admitted as visitors of this library, upon leaving their names with the librarian, without farther introduction.

G. W. MEADLEY, Secretary.

To this institution is annexed another, called the *New Institution*, the object of which is to communicate philosophical knowledge by means of lectures and experiments. The rapidity of intercourse in our island is now so great, that every new discovery is reported to our remotest towns in a few days: and it may be verified in many cases by the repetition of experiments, to the great diffusion of knowledge. This felicity cannot be too highly prized; it marks a state of society superior to that which we dare venture to imagine of the most celebrated nations of antiquity: while the admission of members of congenial establishments manifests a liberality of mind, and urbanity of manners, that would have highly gratified the enlightened and virtuous of the best ages.

We believe, that the introduction of knowledge is also favourable to virtue: for many vices spring from ignorance. This at least, we are sure of, that we have known it directed to the happiest purposes, when those who were instructing others in natural knowledge, had themselves been adequately instructed in rational, manly, and Christian piety.

These reports disclose the establishment of similar Institutions at Felton, Ayr, Paisley, Greenock, Durham, Darlington, North Shields, and South Shields: there are also others at various opulent towns in the English district, and the adjoining counties of North Britain. What a happy contrast to those days when associations for frays, surpizes, and inroads into these very provinces were planned among the youthful members of the community,

— and, at their heels,

Leashed in like hounds, famine, and sword and fire,
Crouched: for employment.—

These combinations of good sense and public spirit are sure proofs of national prosperity: they shew that wealth has visited these parts, whereby they are enabled to direct their attention to polite studies: they shew also, that a desire to direct a portion of wealth to laudable purposes, influences the minds of those who possess it: they lead to the presumption that these persons will thoroughly learn their duty to their country and themselves: and that they will not easily be misled into any dereliction of that duty. They combine well with that military ardour which the unhappy necessities of the times has raised, and still encourages in Britain—this they soften; while that may safely be appealed to in proof that these advantages will not quickly be wrested out of such hands, whether by false friends—who are most to be dreaded; or by boasting enemies—at whom the sons of Britain smile.

POETRY.

THE ROSE, SHAMROCK, AND THISTLE.

The following verses, composed by Mr. Campbell, were recited at the last meeting of the Highland Society.

Pledge to the much lov'd land that gave us birth,
Invincible romantic Scotia's shore!

Pledge to the memory of her parted worth;
And, first amidst the brave, remember MOORE!

And be it deem'd not wrong that name to give
In festive hours, that prompts the Patriot's
sigh:—

Who would not envy such as MOORE to live?
And died he not as heroes wish to die?

Yes, though too soon attaining Glory's goal,
To us his bright career too short was given;
Yet, in a mighty cause his phoenix soul
Rose, on the flames of Victory, to Heav'n.

How oft, if beats in subjugated Spain
One patriot heart, in secret shall it mourn
For him?—How oft, on far Corunna's plain,
Shall British exiles weep upon his urn!

Peace to the mighty dead! Our bosom-thanks,
In sprightlier strains the living may inspire;—
Joy to the Chiefs that lead old Scotia's ranks,
Of Roman garb, and more than Roman fire.

Health to the band this day on Egypt's coast,
Whose valour tamed proud France's tri-color,
And wrench'd the banner from her bravest host,
Baptiz'd Invincible, in Austria's gore.

Victorious be the Thistle still unfurl'd—
Dear symbol wild, on Freedom's hills it grows.
Where FINGAL stemm'd the tyrants of the world,
And Roman eagles found unconquer'd foes.

Joy for the day on Portugallia's strand
When bayonet to bayonet oppos'd;
First of Britannia's hosts, her Highland band
Gave but the death-shot once, and foremost
clos'd.

Is there a son of generous England here,
Or fervid Erin—he with us shall join,
To pray that, in eternal union dear,
The Rose, the Shamrock, and the Thistle twine.

Types of a race who shall the invader scorn,
As rocks resist the billows round their shore—
Types of a race who shall to time unborn
Their country leave unconquered as of yore.

The following Ode is from Mr. Cottle's "*Fall of Cambria*:" the writer has certainly contended for the laurel with Mr. Gray: we give his attempt, as it may furnish points of comparison.

Old Caradoc, upon the new-raised mound,
Stood, whelmed in sorrow, pondering with deep
brow.

A half extinguish'd torch one, near him, held,
Waving its sullen glare, or else, all forms,
Save the dark-sailing cloud, whether in Heaven,
Or Earth beneath, slept and was motionless.
Faint leaning on his harp, pendent, beside,
He view'd the scene, whilst his distracted mind
Felt paralysed with anguish, and the flood
Of heart-consuming grief. He moves his brow.
The aged minstrel's eyes wake from a trance.
He grasps his harp. He pours the feeling song.

Gather fast, ye clouds of night!

Let no star this deed behold!

Be it blotted from the light!

Be it but to Demons told!

Thy honor'd Bards, O Cambria fair!

Whose harps, so oft, have lull'd thy care,

And taught thy sons, to pity prone,

To make another's pang their own,

O friends revered! O brethren dear!

For you I shed the fervent tear!

In the hour of stormy woe,

Iron war hath laid you low!—

While I am left, forlorn, alone,

To heave the sigh and pour the groan!

Masters of the tuneful lyre!

Spirits bathed in Fancy's fire.

Sons, whom Earth beheld with pride!

Who only sojourned here awhile,

Sorrow's children to beguile,

With the song to Heaven allied.

Oft in wild poetic dreams,—

Haunters of the foaming streams!

And of hills, august and hoar,

'Mid the pealing thunder's roar;

Or of spirit-cheering mountains,

Stately rivers, hallow'd fountains,

While night, in panoply and prime,

Marshals her starry hosts sublime;

Ah! never more, in such an hour,

Shall Cambria own your soothing power!

Ah! never more, at closing eve,

Shall her ancient woods receive,

Whilst radiance lingers in the sky,

The flood of your sweet melody!

On the lonely willow tree

Shall your drooping harps be found,

And the winds that round them flee,

Wake, unheard, the solemn sound.

N 2

O that in Oblivion's tide,
 I could plunge, and wash away
 The memory of this evil day
 And its deeds of darkness hide.
 Tho' the mortal groan hath past,
 Tho' is hush'd the raging blast,
 Tho' my brethren all are slain,
 Still, upon my burning brain
 The image rests! the shrieks arise!
 The beaming spear affrights my eyes!
 The hand is raised! The knee is bent!
 And 'Mercy!' throngs the firmament.
 Why, in this vindictive hour,
 Was I spared to see the sight?
 And to view the bloody shower
 Thus on Mona's Bards alight?

Sons of innocence and song!
 Shall o'er your fate no lofty spirits weep?
 Yes! Cambria shall bewail you long
 When these weary eye-balls sleep!
 While succeeding ages roll,
 You shall move the feeling soul!
 To this spot, thus holy made,
 To this lone and peaceful shade,
 From a callous world and proud,
 Cambria's better sons shall crowd:—
 They upon this mound, shall stand,
 And, whilst their labouring hearts expand,
 They shall drop a tear for you,
 And faltering cry—'Sweet Bards, adieu'

Grey my lock, and dim my eye,
 On another state I gaze!
 The scenes of time before me fly;
 Yet, in these my parting days,
 Bitter is the cup of woe,
 Which I must drink before I go!
 The world to me is blank and dead;
 All its vagrant joys are fled!
 I see no home beneath the sky!
 I hear no harp's sweet minstrelsy!
 I view no bard, a brother made!
 All, beneath the turf, are laid!
 I am left, and left alone,
 To heave the sigh, and pour the groan!

God of majesty and might!
 Let thy winged lightnings fly!
 Let thy thunder-bolts alight,
 On the monster chieftains nigh!
 At this hour of tears and sighs,
 Hark! their horrid laughter rise!
 Scorn'd of every heart and clime,
 May they wither in their prime!
 Hope, the balm of human care,
 May they barter for despair!
 May thy mercy, Judge of all!
 Never to their souls extend,
 But, confusion on them fall!
 And perdition, without end!

Anguish, like a flaming dart,
 Deeper, let it pierce their heart!
 And when on life's tempestuous brink,
 Whilst her wormwood dregs they drink,
 Let them pass the torrent wild,
 Not like virtue's peaceful child,—
 By their own uplifted hand,
 May they perish from the land!
 Or, justice, with remorseless fang,
 Tear them from these happy skies,
 And the still-increasing pang
 Be their worm that never dies!
 Oh! I err! This storm within,
 My heart hath hurried on to sin!—
 God of Mercy! o'er the past,
 Thy forgiving mantle cast!—
 Now, let me to the forests fly—
 There to sorrow—there to die!

He ceas'd; yet ere he left the hallow'd spot,
 One lingering look he cast, o'er the dead bed,
 Whereon his brethren lay. Speechless he view'd
 His spirit labouring with despair; his hand,
 Now rais'd, and his fix'd eye, straining toward
 Heaven.

While thus he stood, all eyes beholding him,
 The moon o'er lofty trees, faintly shines forth;
 The breeze of night subsides, and the full soul
 Of bold-eyed warriors, long unused to tears,
 Indulges ample grief, and, sympathy
 Feels with the scene around. Amid the pause,
 So holy, and that reach'd the inmost heart,
 Old Caradoc—his spirit sooth'd and mild,
 Slow from the mound descends, and passes on,
 Lonely, thro' forest trees, secret and dark,
 Smiting his breast, to his unknown abode.

THE NEW UNIVERSAL HYMN OF PRAISE:

*Sung by the Young People belonging to Messrs.
 Hulberts' Cotton Manufactory, on Whit-
 Monday, 1807, in the open air.*

[Compare Panorama, Vol. VI. p. 99.]

Praise God, ye high seraphic trains,
 Whose voices cheer the heav'nly plains;
 Ye ransom'd saints, a glorious throng,
 Begin the universal song.

Ye brightest suns, ye lamps of day,
 Who round the heavenly centre play;
 Ye distant worlds upheld in air,
 Your great Creator's pow'r declare.

Ye echoing hills, ye waving woods,
 Ye rolling streams and swelling floods,
 Let all in air, earth, sea, combine
 To swell the grateful song divine.

No vaulted roof our praise confines,
 Our hymn the song of nature joins;
 Through boundless space thy name shall ring,
 Great Pow'r Supreme! Eternal King!

OBSERVANDA INTERNA.

Army Regulations.—General Orders. Horse-Guards, March 20. The Commander-in-Chief has received the King's commands to make known to the army, that the following orders shall hereafter be strictly observed:—"No officer shall be promoted to the rank of captain until he has been three years a subaltern;—to the rank of field officer, until he has been seven years in the service, of which he shall have been at least two years a captain;—to the rank of lieutenant-colonel, until he has been nine years in the service, of which he shall have been at least two years a major.—No officer shall be allowed to fill any staff appointment, that of aid-de-camp excepted, until he has been one year a captain."

The Army.—Warrant, establishing nett daily rates of pay for general staff officers, and for officers of garrisons on foreign stations. From Dec. 25, 1808, inclusive, dated February 24, 1809.—GEORGE R.—Whereas it hath appeared unto us that convenience would ensue, both to the public service and to individuals, if the pay of the several appointments belonging to the staff of our army, and to our garrisons abroad, after suffering the usual deductions of poundage and hospital, were to be reduced to a nett daily rate (freed from fractions) for each rank; our will and pleasure, therefore, is, that the nett daily rates, specified in the accompanying states, which are fixed in favour of the officer, at the integral penny next above the fraction in each instance, be borne upon the establishment from the 25th of December 1808, inclusive, and be issued accordingly.—It is also our pleasure, that, in the event of any additional appointments being placed upon the establishment of our staff in garrisons, the pay of such additional appointments shall be issued at similar nett daily rates, founded upon the accustomed annual rates attached thereto respectively.—For which this shall be, to all whom it may concern, a sufficient warrant and authority.—Given at our Court at St. James's, this 24th day of Feb. 1809, in the 49th year of our reign. By his Majesty's command,

JAMES PULTENEY.

State of the Rates of Pay of General Staff Officers on the Home Stations; referred to in His Majesty's Warrant, Dated, Feb. 24, 1809.

The first column contains the rates per annum (365 days) as borne in the Establishment prior to Dec. 1808. The second column contains the nett rates per diem, commencing from 25th Dec. 1808 inclusive.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Captain General and Commander-in-chief	3147	10	0	9	9	6
General	2074	10	0	5	13	9
Lieutenant-General	1383	0	0	3	15	0
Major General	691	10	0	1	17	11
Brigadier-General	518	12	6	1	8	6
Colonel	414	18	0	1	2	9
Adjutant-General	1555	17	6	4	5	4
Deputy Adj.-General	315	15	0	0	19	0
Quarter-Master-General	1555	17	6	4	5	4
Deputy-Quarter-Master-General	345	15	0	0	19	0
Barrack-Master-General (retired)	691	10	0	1	17	11
Aid-de-Camp to King	189	9	0½	0	10	5

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Aid-de-Camp to a General Officer	172	17	6	0	9	6
Inspector of Clothing	345	15	0	0	19	0
Principal Assistant-Adjutant-General at head-quarters	345	15	0	0	19	0
Assistant-Adjutant-General	259	6	3	0	14	3
Assistant - Quarter-Master-General	259	6	3	0	14	3
Permanent District Assistant to the Quarter-Master-General as Lieutenant-Colonel of Cavalry, including an allowance of 1s. 6d. a day, in lieu of a servant	447	2	6	1	4	6
Ditto as Major of Cavalry, with the like allowance for a servant	378	13	9	1	0	9
Temporary Assistant Quarter-Master-General	172	17	6	0	9	6
Deputy Assistant Quarter-Master-General	172	17	6	0	9	6
Major of Brigade	172	17	6	0	9	6
Chaplain-General	345	15	0	0	19	0
Chaplain to the Commander-in-Chief	115	5	0	0	6	4
Physician-General	172	17	6	0	9	6
Surgeon-General	172	17	6	0	9	6
Inspect.-Gen. of Army Hospitals	172	17	6	0	9	6
Apothecary-Gen.	172	17	6	0	9	6
Principal Veterinary Surgeon	172	17	6	0	9	6
Military Superintendent of Hospitals	345	15	6	0	19	0

Special Appointments in North Britain.

Secretary to the Com. of the Forces	172	17	6	0	9	6
Deputy Adjutant-General	345	15	0	0	19	0
Deputy Quarter-Master-General	345	15	0	0	19	0
Baggage-Master and Inspector of the Roads	86	8	9	0	4	9
Deputy Judge Advocate and Clerk of Courts Martial	172	17	6	0	9	6
Commissary of Stores and Provisions	172	17	6	0	9	6

Medical Staff.

Inspector of Hospitals	691	10	0	1	17	11
Deputy Inspector of Hospitals	432	3	9	1	3	9
Physician	345	15	0	0	19	0
Purveyor of Hospitals	345	15	0	0	19	0
Surgeon	259	6	8	0	14	3
Apothecary	172	17	6	0	9	6
Deputy Purveyor of Hospitals	172	17	6	0	9	6
Hospital Mate for General Service	136	17	6	0	7	6
Ditto for home Service	118	12	6	0	6	6

Report of a Committee appointed by the Hon. House of Commons, on the Cotton Weavers' Petitions. Ordered to be printed 29th March 1809.—The Committee, to whom the Petition of several Journeymen Cotton Weavers resident in England; and also the petition of the Cotton Manufacturers and operative Cotton Weavers in Scotland, were severally referred;—and to whom the Report, which, upon the 12th day of April in the last Session of Parliament, was made from the Committee on the Petitions of several Merchants, Manufacturers, Spinners, and others engaged in the Cotton Manufactures of Lancashire, Cheshire, &c. and of several Journeymen Cotton Weavers resident in England—was also referred: and who were directed to examine the Matters of the said Petitions, and report the same as they should appear to them, together with their Observations and Opinions thereupon to the House;—have, pursuant to the Order of the House, examined the Matters to them referred; and have come to the following Resolution:—Resolved, That your Committee are unanimously of Opinion, that the Proposition stated in the said Petitions, relative to the fixing a Minimum for the Price of Labour in the Cotton Manufacture, is wholly inadmissible in principle, incapable of being reduced to practice by any means which can possibly be devised, and, if practicable, would be productive of the most fatal consequences:—That the Proposition relative to the limiting the number of Apprentices is also entirely inadmissible, and would, if adopted by the House, be attended with the greatest injustice to the Manufacturer, as well as to the Labourer:—That the other Proposition, for an Act for establishing an uniformity of prices, your Committee, upon the proof that some such regulations as are thereby proposed have prevailed in the Silk Manufactory for several years, have taken the same into their most serious consideration, and have resolved unanimously, after mature deliberation, that any legislative interference of the nature proposed would tend to aggravate the distresses which it is the earnest wish of the Committee, and must be of the House, to alleviate or remedy: but your Committee have no hesitation in stating, that they do not perceive any mode by which new laws could be framed capable of producing such beneficial effects; and your Committee have thought it their duty to come to this early decision, that they might not encourage any false hopes in those whose situation demands the utmost respect, and whose acknowledged sufferings, arising from natural and political causes, can only be remedied by such changes as your Committee anxiously hope may take place.

. Our readers are requested to refer to Panorama, Vol. I. pp. 1060, 1067; and to Vol. II. pp. 632 and 638, for observations and documents respecting the Woollen Manufacturers, the Callico Printers, and the Letter Press Printers, to which the present report bears some analogy, concerning the impediments attempted to be thrown into the way of proceedings lately found necessary to prevent combinations.

Report of Hon. House of Commons on the Abuse of East India Patronage.—The following

is the list of persons examined before a committee of the House of Commons, on whose evidence was founded the report which we inserted in page 27 of the present volume.—[The whole of the proceedings with the report and minutes of evidence forms a mass of 238 closely printed folio pages.]—George Woodford Thellusson, Esq.—Emperor John Alexander Woodford, Esq.—Mr. Gabriel Tahourdin.—Mr. Jeremiah Donovan.—Mr. John Jones.—Mr. Rowland Maltby.—Mr. William Scott.—Mr. Joseph Tyndale.—Daniel Beale, Esq.—Mr. Thomas Southcomb.—Sir Thomas Theophilus Metcalfe, Bart.—George Abercrombie Robinson, Esq.—Mr. George Davis.—Mr. David Brown.—Alexander Nowell, Esq.—The Honourable A. C. Bradshaw.—John Battye, Esq.—Mr. John Annesley Shee.—Mr. John Mills.—Thomas Stoughton, Esq.—Sir Matthew Bloxam, Knight.—Mr. Joshua Houghton Garrett.—Mr. James Garrett.—Mr. Jeremiah James Reding.—Mr. Peter Abbott.—Mr. John Fuller.—Mr. Charles Barron.—Mrs. Jane Louisa Campbell.—Mr. Robert Livie.—Mr. Joseph Mee.—Edward Parry, Esq.—Charles Grant and Edward Parry, Esqrs.—Jacob Bosanquet, Esq.—Mr. Edward Bill.—The Earl of Clancarty.—Lord Viscount Castlereagh.—Mr. Thomas Wright.—Mr. Conrade Coulthurst.—Robert Thornton, Esq.—Stephen Lushington, Esq. J.L.D.—Mr. Richard Blackford.—Mr. Annesley M'Kercher Shee.—Mrs. Susanna Williams.—Mrs. Elizabeth Morrison.—Mr. John George.—Mr. John Davison.—Mr. Henry Foster.—Mr. James Pasmore.—Sweeney Toone, Esq.—John Phillips.—Captain John Williams.—Mr. John Colledge.—Mr. Thomas Cusac.—Mr. Frederic Lewis Pollman and Mr. John Keylock.—The Right Honourable John Sullivan.—Mr. John Henderson.—Mr. Richard Power.—Sir William Fraser, Bart.—The Right Honourable Earl Temple.—Mr. Matthew Spilman Salt.—Mr. Henry Houghton.—Miss Elizabeth H. Spinluff.—Captain Thomas Coghlan.—John Manship, Esq.—Mr. Robert Sharman.—Mr. Thomas Watson.—Henry Smith, Esq.—The Reverend Thomas Lloyd.—Mr. Richard Locke.—Alexander Anderson, Esq.—Mrs. Jane Welch.—Mr. Richard Cadman Etches.—Mr. William Bryant.—Edward Cooke, Esq.—Sir Mark Wood, Bart.—William Devaynes, Esq.—John Inglis, Esq.—James Pattison, Esq.—John Roberts, Esq.—There is likewise a Letter from the Master of the Rolls, addressed to the Chairman of the Committee, (relative to His Honour's dismissing Mr. Robins from the Rolls Office), and the following

Return from the East India House, respecting Cadets of the name of Brown, appointed in the seasons of 1804 and 1805; Vide Panorama, Vol. VI. bottom of page 31 in the Report, &c. &c.—Mr. James Brown, the first, was appointed a Cadet to Bengal by Robert Thornton, Esq. on the 29th February 1804, on a nomination given to Lord Teignmouth and Captain James Ludovick Grant, which Captain Grant afterwards exchanged with William Adair Jackson, Esq. for a Madras.—Mr. Thomas Browne was appointed a Cadet for Bombay on the 15th February 1804, by William Devaynes, Esq. It does not appear by whom Mr. Browne was recommended to Mr. Devaynes. Mr. Anthony Wogan Browne was appointed a Cadet to Bombay on the 30th January 1805, by

George Smith, Esq. at the recommendation of Charles Greeme, Esq.—Mr. James Brown, the second, was appointed a Cadet to Bombay on the 2d April 1805, by Simon Fraser, Esq. It does not appear by whom this Mr. Brown was recommended to Mr. Fraser.—Mr. Patrick Brown was appointed a Cadet to Madras on the 18th December 1805, by Sir Francis Baring, Bart. at the recommendation of A. A.—Mr. George Browne was appointed a Cadet to Bengal on the 2d July 1806, by Robert Thornton, Esq. at the recommendation of William Devaynes, Esq.

Report on Wool, by Lord Somerville.—Lord Somerville, at the meeting which was held after his late cattle show, read the following report :

“There is not a person who does me the honour to attend at this meeting, let his rank or degree be what it may, who does not feel affected by the late extraordinary rise in an article of the most pressing necessity—namely, in clothing goods.

That increasing impediments would now be thrown in the way of obtaining fine wools from Spain, was to be expected from the state of that country; the provinces to the northward of the capital, in which the shearing of the Merino flocks chiefly takes place, being now either in the actual possession of the enemy, or very much interrupted by them. The quantity of wool imported was,

	lbs.	Average.
In 1805....	7,041,613	6,319,691
1806....	5,597,768	
In 1807....	10,484,027	6,233,087
1808....	1,982,148	

The import in 1808 was, in quarters, as follows :

Quarter ending April 5.....	1,577,155
July 5.....	302,910
October 10.....	—
January 5.....	102,083

Thus, from the very best information that can be obtained, it appears that, though the quantity received in 1808 falls short of the usual annual importation, yet that, owing to the very large quantity received in the preceding year, the average of these two years is nearly equal to that of the two preceding. The importations for the first part of the year 1808 were nearly the average of usual importations; from which period, the Spaniards having regained possession of their country for a time, ought to have been less impeded in the sale of their wools, just then ready for market. But as the import of the third quarter is stated as nothing, and that of the last quarter not more than the 15th part of the first quarter of 1808, it must be obvious, if such a confirmation were necessary, that there does actually exist a combination of a limited but atrocious nature.

That a rise, in proportion to the difficulty experienced in the importation, should be made; that what has long been bought at about 6s. per pound should now, perhaps, be rendered at 8s. was reasonable. An advance of 2s. per pound might be just; but that more than 20s. per pound should be thus suddenly demanded, can only arise from speculations, which may, in the outset, fatten a few mercenary wholesale importers, but must end in the ruin of every other party concerned, and for the following plain reasons.—Manufacturers of cloth, becoming doubtful of a market for their goods, will pay off a large pro-

portion of their workmen, an immense number of whom, it is said, are already turned out of employ, and these must come to their parishes for support. The quantity of cloths cut for use will also be very much diminished, and even now 20,000 tailors are said to be thrown out of work in this city, and solely from this cause.

In a very short space of time, substitutes will be found for wool. At first, cloths of inferior quality will be worn, cotton will probably be used as the chain or warp of cloths or fustains; Manchester velvets, and some such stuffs, will be resorted to. The natural result of all this must be a reduction in the price of clothing wools, and a consequent diminution in the breed of wool-bearing animals, which will strike at the very existence of factors in wool, and of those clothiers who, falling into this snare, involve their people, with themselves, in one common ruin. In that case, we shall have to depend on an article of uncertain importation, for defence against the severity of our climate, rather than on one of our own profitable growth, and shall be beggared by the support of manufacturing poor thrown on the public.

The manufacturer cannot be expected to carry on his trade at a loss; in proportion to the prices of the raw, must his manufactured article be charged; but in honesty, as well as policy, they are bound to make no such excessive advance on goods worked up from their existing stock, that is to say, on wool purchased before this shameful speculation was on foot.

Those who sneered at my predictions, which now, at the end of eight years, have notoriously come to pass, may sneer again; but, as effect usually follows the cause, so may this be realized, and speedily. Individual instances of enormous profit have come to my knowledge, as the shameful means by which they have been obtained, but I forbear to name them. Trade of every description should be unfettered as long as possible; but men who embark in dangerous combinations of this nature, should bear in mind that, even in a recent case, the legislature was compelled to interfere, and render void bargains which, uncontrolled, would have ruined numberless individuals.

I would not omit this particular occasion, collected as we just now are for the purpose of promoting the general benefit, rather than our own individual interest, to manifest my unqualified detestation of this selfish and dangerous monopoly, and to state that, in the sale announced for to-morrow of the largest and most valuable lot of fine-woolled sheep I have ever been enabled to part with, I have no desire to share in profit so unreasonable and ill-timed. Those mixed-breed wools which I have engaged to offer at public auction, must abide the event; as they sold last year at less than their value, so this year they may perhaps sell for more; but the more valuable growth shall be sold at the same house, and at the same price as it has produced for some years past.”

After some observations from his Lordship on the superiority of Merino mutton, Sir John Sinclair, the President of the Board of Agriculture, rose, and, after complimenting Lord Somerville on the zeal and ability with which he had espoused the cause of introducing the Merino breed of

sheep into this country, making himself a journey to Spain for the purpose of selecting those valuable animals, said, that he could not omit this opportunity of declaring his opinion, that sheep, of the Merino breed, while their wool is so excellent, also produce as good mutton as any exhibited on our shambles. Sir John next proceeded to notice, in terms of high commendation, Lord Somerville's exertions, for opposing the impositions of unprincipled speculators in this staple article of British manufacture.

Bank Notes.—An account of the notes of the Bank of England in circulation, including bank post bills, from the 1st of February, 1808, to the 1st of February, 1809; distinguishing the amount in circulation in each quarter: Notes of five pounds each, and upwards.—

1808. May 1.....	£13,429,640
Aug. 1.....	13,521,380
Nov. 1.....	13,235,460
1809. Feb. 1.....	13,226,860
Notes of two pounds and one pound each.	
1808. May 1.....	£4,062,260
Aug. 1.....	4,123,290
Nov. 1.....	4,214,710
1809. Feb. 1.....	4,333,200

Meux and Co.'s Brewery.—The sale of this extensive concern took place at the public sale room in Southampton-buildings, Chancery-lane, pursuant to a decree of the High Court of Chancery. The freehold and leasehold property, situate in Liquorpond-street, and Portpool-lane, comprising the brewhouse, dwelling-house, and offices, together with all the valuable plant, steam engines, &c. was offered in one lot, subject to the purchaser's taking the beer, malt, hops, hay, corn, and coals, as also the horses, drays, butts, and other casks, at a fair valuation; the several leasehold public houses, being 134 in number, and the eight freehold and copyhold, were to be taken at his option, at the sum of £61,360 or the leasehold only at £47,160. When Sir Robert Wigram, one of the present firm, opened the biddings at £50,000 and a Mr. Hobson was the last bidder at £112,000.—Compare Panorama, Vol. V. p. 964.

Remain of Druidical Practices.—The southern part of Devonshire is remarkable for its cyder. In order to insure a good fruit harvest, the following custom is generally kept up in that quarter. On the eve of the Epiphany, the farmer, attended by his workmen with a large pitcher of cyder, goes to the orchard, and then, encircling one of the best-bearing trees, they drink the following toast three several times.

Here's to thee, old apple tree;

When thou may'st bud, and when thou may'st blow!

And when thou may'st bear apple enow?

Hats full! caps full!

Bushel—bushel—sacks full!

And my pockets full too!

Huzza! Huzza! Huzza!

Thus done they return to the house, the doors of which they are sure to find bolted by the females, who, be the weather what it may, are inexorable to all entreaties to open them, till some one among them has guessed what is upon the spit, which is generally some nice little thing difficult to be hit on, and is the reward of him

who first names it. The doors are then thrown open, and the lucky clodpole receives the tit-bit as his recompence. Some are so superstitious as to believe, that if they neglect this custom, the trees will bear no apples that year.

Community of Rooks, destroyed.—An ash tree was lately blown down at Barten-upon-Humber, which contained within its limits a rookery of 100 nests.—Upon measurement, it was found to contain upwards of 300 cubic feet of sound timber, the boll alone measuring 22½ feet in length by 10 feet in girth.

Bankruptcies.—The number of bankruptcies in the year 1808, from January 1st, to December 31st, inclusive, amounts to 1102.

Improvements at York.—York, March 10, 1809. At a general meeting of the inhabitants, and of gentlemen in the neighbourhood, held at the Guildhall, this day, the general plan laid before this meeting by the recorder, for carrying into effect the intended amendments and improvements of Ouse and Foss bridges, in the said city, is to be adopted.

Application is to be made to the inhabitants for their subscription, in order to abolish the foot toll. The amount of subscriptions is nearly £8,000.

Glut of Skates and Thornbacks.—Such quantities of skates and thornbacks were last week brought to shore by the Hastings fishing boats, that latterly the poor, who had been glutted with them, would not accept them gratis; and great numbers were in consequence thrown upon the dunghills, after their livers had been taken out to boil up for oil.

Enormous Rat.—Lately Mr. Hicks, of Heathfield, killed in his barn a male rat of a very uncommon size, the measure of his length, from the point of his nose to the extremity of his tail being twenty-two inches.

Damage in the Fens.—It is now clearly ascertained that the damage sustained by the flooding of the Fens in Cambridgeshire, amounts to upwards of a million of money. The distresses of individuals are great beyond credibility, except to those who have witnessed them.—A subscription has been opened for the relief of the poorer sufferers, which it is hoped will meet with support from the benevolent.

Deer destroyed by Winter.—From the severity of the late winter, the mortality among the deer throughout the country has been greater than was ever known. It is supposed that not less than from between four and five hundred have died in Salcey forest, Northamptonshire, since November last.

Extraordinary Surgical Case.—Upon opening the body of a man who lately died in Guy's Hospital, sixteen large clasp knives, such as are used by sailors, were found in the stomach and intestines. The hafts of them were entirely decomposed, and the iron work partly so. The account given by himself was, that several years ago, he had swallowed six of his messmates' knives, in a drunken frolic, and that feeling no immediate bad consequences, he had, on two subsequent occasions, swallowed twelve or thirteen more. For these two years past he had applied, at fre-

quent intervals, for admission into various hospitals, and he was uniformly dismissed as an impostor, upon telling his strange story. He was received into Guy's only a few weeks ago, after having been stripped and minutely examined by Dr. Babington and Mr. Astley Cooper.

Atmospheric Meteor.—Newcastle upon Tyne. A meteor of uncommon brilliancy was observed here lately; at night, from about fifteen minutes to twenty past ten o'clock. The view of the ball itself was only occasional, during that period; but its rapid progress, towards the North East, could be clearly distinguished through the light clouds which it illuminated in its passage.—It was apparently about the size of one of the street lamps; and, at the time last mentioned, (20 minutes past ten) it exploded with the report of a cannon!—It was seen by several persons in this town, and heard by many others, who supposed it a gun fired from some ship in the offing.

Yardwands.—A joiner having received an order from a respectable draper in this town, (Newcastle) to make him a yardwand, immediately demanded what length it should be?—which not a little disconcerted the worthy draper. . . . Such of our readers as are inclined to smile at the foregoing relation, would do well to restrain their mirth; since it is an incontestible fact, that in several market-towns and considerable villages in England, are to be found yardwands of different dimensions, length, or extent.

SCOTLAND.

Dry Dock formed in the Rock.—Edinburgh, March 20. A few days ago, there was safely admitted into the dry-dock at Burntisland, a very large Russian ship, said to be a frigate, being in length 154 feet, breadth 40 feet, draught of water when loaded, 22 feet, and burden upwards of 1000 tons.—The very excellent dry-dock which contains this large vessel is 215 feet long and 43 feet four inches broad at the gates. It is hewn out of the solid rock, and is the sole property of Mr. Fairnie, shipbuilder. His majesty's ships upon this station may now be safely accommodated and repaired at Burntisland, which could never be the case before in Scotland.

Recruiting Inveiglers punished.—The Magistrates of Glasgow lately punished by fine and imprisonment, two non-commissioned officers and a private belonging to the recruiting service there, for attempting to inveigle by fraud an ignorant country lad, and afterwards to detain him in a public-house by force, on pretence that he had enlisted, in consequence of which a violent disturbance was occasioned.

IRELAND.

A very serious riot lately took place in Nenagh, in the county of Tipperary, originating in the following trivial circumstance: two boys, residing near Caragatogher, three miles from Nenagh, on the Limerick road, had a quarrel, in which their respective relations had the folly to take a part, and after two or three skirmishes, it was agreed to try their respective strengths in a pitched battle, to be fought at Nenagh. Early in the forenoon of the 23d ult. the two parties were marshalled near the residences of their leaders, each in three divisions, having an advanced and rear

guards, with proper reserves, and in that order they marched to Nenagh, where they mustered about fifteen hundred men. The magistrates, with the aid of a company of the Leitrim and the Yeomanry, preserved order till evening, when seven hundred men, who had not dispersed, commenced a conflict which could not be terminated till the troops charged with the bayonet. Three men were killed, and several severely wounded; but we are concerned to learn, that this circumstance has not diminished the hostile feelings of the respective combatants.

Theatre Royal, Dublin.—It is necessary for the information of provincial actors and others, to know, that in consequence of the number of applications made to the manager of the theatre royal, Dublin, no letters will be answered in future that are not post paid, and the answers given to their application will be paid in return.

Entries and Customs.—Dublin, March 18. The entries on rum, geneva, and aqua vite, have amounted lately to considerable sums. One house (Perrott and M'Call) on Wednesday bonded for 573 puncheons of rum, amounting to £28,340. Whiskey and geneva on that and the preceding Monday aggregated the duty on spirits to £34,079. Tea, on those two days, was entered to the amount of £1,547. Same day 4400 barrels of oats were entered for Liverpool.

OBSERVANDA EXTERNA.

ASIA.

JERUSALEM.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE AT JERUSALEM DESTROYED BY FIRE.

Jerusalem, 24 Oct. 1808.—In the night between the 11th and 12th instant; after the Franciscan monks, who reside in the Holy Sepulchre, had retired to rest, they heard an uncommon noise in the church: they immediately hastened to the spot: and, upon their entering it, they discovered the wooden altar together with the wooden cells of the Armenian ecclesiastics situated over the columns of the gallery, in flames; without their being able to divine the cause. From thence the flames descended upon the choir of the Greeks; and from thence to the floor of the church: the fire now assumed a most awful appearance and threatened the elevated wooden cupola of the Temple with immediate destruction. The Franciscans used their utmost exertions to stop the progress of the flames; but they were too few in number; they also wanted the necessary implements for that purpose; and when they at last succeeded in alarming the ecclesiastics of the adjacent church of St. Salvator, and of acquainting them, as well as the police, with what had

happened, the flames had already reached the Cupola. As soon as the alarm was given the whole of the Roman Catholic youth of the city rushed immediately to their assistance, and exerted themselves with the greatest zeal and intrepidity, but it was impossible to stop the fury of the devouring element; and, between 5 and 6 o'clock in the morning, the burning cupola, with all the melting and boiling lead wherewith it was covered, fell in, and thereby gave this extensive building the awful appearance of a burning smelting house. The excessive heat, which proceeded from this immense mass of liquid fire, caused not only the marble columns which support the gallery, to burst, but likewise the marble floor of the church, together with the pilasters and images in bas relief, that decorated the chapel containing the Holy Sepulchre, situated in the center of the church. Shortly after, the massive columns that supported the gallery fell down, together with the whole of the walls. Fortunately no lives were lost; only a few persons were hurt, or scorched by the fire. It is remarkable, that the interior of the abovementioned chapel containing the Holy Sepulchre, and wherein service is performed, has not been in the least injured, although the same was situated immediately under the cupola, and consequently in the middle of the flames:—even, after the fire had been extinguished, it was found that the silk-hangings, wherewith it is decorated, and the splendid painting, representing the Resurrection, placed upon the altar at the entrance of the Sepulchre, had not sustained the least injury.

••. *The account of this extraordinary incident has reached us too late this month, to admit of our inserting any description, or history, of the structure. We shall deem it a duty to give an early attention to this subject; it may be considered as interesting the whole of Christendom. Protestants as well as Catholics and Greeks, may be allowed to venerate this structure, for various reasons; and we trust that in thus calling the attention of our readers to it in an unusual manner, while we express in some degree the feelings of our minds, we shall stand acquitted from the charge of superstition, or even an approach to it.*

SUFFERINGS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE CONTINENT FROM THE INCLEMENCIES OF THE LATE WINTER.

We are perfectly well convinced, that the British nation at large strongly sympathized with those parts of its community, which, by their local situation, were most particularly subjected to the calamities and losses consequent on the severity of the weather, and the suddenness of the thaw, during the late winter. Public subscriptions, indeed, were not general. In some places they were resorted to, for immediate and local supplies; but those districts which have suffered most extensively, as the fens of the Isle of Ely, and Cambridgeshire, have solicited relief from the national bounty, of which Parliament is the organ.

As an instance of the exertion of private bounty, we refer to the resolutions passed at a meeting of the principal proprietors and occupiers of lands within the Great Level of the Fens called Bedford Level, held at the Shirehall in Ely, on Monday, March 6th, 1809, in pursuance of a resolution of a former meeting, holden at the Shirehall, on February last, for the purpose of taking into consideration the serious and heavy losses sustained by the poor occupiers and inhabitants within the said Level, in their cattle, corn, cropping, and furniture from the inundations occasioned by the late breaches of the banks;—The Rev. George Jenyns, Prebendary of Ely, in the chair.

The object of this association is further explained, in a subsequent resolution, to be that of relieving poor cottagers, and small occupiers, who by the late floods have lost their all, or have been reduced to poverty from the destruction of their corn and cropping, or from being compelled to part with their stock much below the value, in consequence of want of food for them—small occupiers who, notwithstanding the flooding of their lands, and the loss of the present and following seasons, are liable to the payment of parochial rates and taxes, which they are unable to discharge—sober and industrious labourers and mechanics, who in consequence of the late inundations are deprived of the means of support, and particularly such as shall be recommended by the local committees for having exerted themselves in helping to stop the breaches in the banks, and to remove the property out of the fens, at imminent risk to themselves.

The sums subscribed at this meeting amounted to nearly £1,000.

We recorded in a former volume* the disastrous events that distinguished the month of July 1808, by reason of the extreme heat

* Comp. Panorama, Vol. IV. p. 1161.

which then prevailed, not only in our own country but on the continent, and although we found that Britain had suffered, and severely too, yet the phenomena which had taken place on the continent were of a still more extraordinary kind. In like manner, the sufferings of the continent by means of the late extreme cold, have been more than we had experienced, and the damages done by the floods and torrents, have greatly exceeded what any part, much more what Britain had sustained on the average. We conceive also, that Britain has risen more speedily from the consequent depression, than parts abroad have done. This undoubtedly must be attributed to the greater alacrity of exertion, the general distribution of capital, as well as the spirit of enterprize, which at once distinguishes our country, and marks the disposition of our compatriots.

Those imbeciles who accuse us of over-weening attention to Morals, are at liberty, if they please, to take advantage of what we are about to say, in support of their accusations. Nevertheless, we freely confess on our part, that we consider it as a *duty* to excite our countrymen to acknowledge that paternal favour to which they are beholden for exemption from evils such as are enumerated in the following statements. We have been at very great pains and trouble to procure these particulars; partly for the purpose of recording them, as being truly remarkable in their nature and degree; and partly that they may demonstrate the indispensable propriety of gratitude to DIVINE GOODNESS, among the inhabitants of this heaven-protected Island.

AUSTRIA.

Vienna, February 1809.—The ice floating down the Lower Danube has fixed itself near this city, and carried away the handsome bridge belonging to the Palace of Prince Rasumowski, on the Vienna canal: which connected that palace with the main road in the Prater: five arches of the Tabor Bridge have also been considerably damaged.

BAVARIA.

Munich, 3d February.—The Danube, and all the streams which fall into it, have, by their overflowing, done considerable damage. The greatest number of the bridges over the Inn, as well as those over the Izer, have been carried away. The communications between the different towns are maintained by means of boats; as the principal roads are inundated, to the depth of six or seven feet.

GERMANY.

Bremen, February.—The inundations in our neighbourhood have assumed a most terrific appearance. The floods have broke more than twenty dykes; and have prevented the best lands from being cultivated. It will

take the inhabitants more than six months to repair the damages the floods have occasioned to the dykes. The ice, and the overflowings of the Weser, and of the Aller, have caused considerable damage to the town of Verden.

Augsbourg, 30th Jan.—The Danube, the Altmuhl, and the Wernitz have overflowed their banks, and have occasioned a great deal of damage to the neighbourhood.

HOLLAND.

From Elst they write, that they have sustained the loss of fifteen persons drowned; 100 houses destroyed, or damaged; 400 head of cattle drowned.

From Kirkendom, they report sixteen persons drowned: together with other losses of various kinds.

We learn from Meteren, that of 64 houses, which this village contained, 28 have been totally destroyed; and those which remain are almost all unfit to be inhabited. The number of persons drowned is twelve; of horses 2; of black cattle 93; of sheep 100.

The report from Rhenew states, 16 persons drowned; houses destroyed 16.

At Acquoi the number of houses destroyed is 16.

The number of persons drowned at Beusichom is eighteen.

The number drowned at Asch is twenty-six.

The villages of Soy and Persichen have been entirely destroyed; nothing remaining but the steeples of the churches above the water, and parts of those solid fabrics.

At Westervoord, a miller, whose house was surrounded by the floods, after the greatest exertions succeeded in placing his wife and four children in a tree; he also had placed another child in a tub; when the tree was suddenly carried away by the violence of the stream, and his wife and children precipitated in the foaming waves. He repeated his efforts to save them; but, they were in vain: he saw them all perish, and the poor man sunk lifeless under the weight of his misfortune. The child which had been placed in the tub was the only individual saved.

The opening gap in the dyke near Kedichem is about 40 roods long, and is more than 60 feet deep.

The devastation occasioned by the floods in the districts of Heusden and Altens are dreadful. In the low lands the water has settled at more than 10 feet deep.

From the district of the Lower Betewe, on the confines of Thiel, the following accounts of damages done by the late inundations have been received. The number of persons drowned is stated to be 113; of cattle drowned 1441; houses destroyed 426; houses damaged 783. From Leardam, Arperen, and places adjacent, the report made states: persons drowned 67; cattle drowned 847; houses destroyed 167; and hou-

ses damaged 212. In the district of Alblaserdam, 33,000 acres have been inundated.

Extract of a letter from Neerijnen:—"I had heard a great deal about the damage occasioned by the inundations to this village and its neighbourhood; but public report has, in this instance, by far under-rated the devastations committed by the floods. Every thing along the dyke has been destroyed: houses, household furniture, hay, wood, are seen floating in every direction, 2 houses, 2 barns, and 2 other out-houses, have been entirely destroyed; 25 houses, 10 barns, have been considerably damaged. Twenty-five persons, 18 horses, 20 cows, 13 oxen, 5 calves, 20 sheep, 12 swine, were drowned. One of the most afflicting circumstances is the following: a farmer named Adam Boestra, a man of very reputable character, after having lost his house and 25 head of cattle, succeeded in conveying his wife to a place of safety, but afterwards he returned, in order to save his four children: they had all the same claims to his affection; his paternal heart could not choose between them, which to save first: he therefore took them altogether in his arms: but, his strength failing him, he was obliged to drop them, and see them all perish before his eyes; without being able to afford them the least assistance."

They write from Cleves, that, in consequence of the floods, the water has risen 26 inches higher than it was in the year 1741.

The total number of persons lost by the inundation is supposed to be more than three hundred.

Upwards of 800,000 florins have been subscribed for the relief of the sufferers by the late inundations, as far as the same have been returned to the Minister for the Interior, at the close of March 1809. Amsterdam has contributed, exclusive of the subscriptions received by the Minister of the Interior, 237,144 florins; Delft and Delfhaven, 10,965; Dordrecht 14,200; Goada 3,024; Haag (den) 41,131; Haarlem 47,147; Leyden 41,420; Utrecht 19,807. In the statement of the various towns, &c. (which is too numerous for our insertion) the sums collected in the churches on the fast day are not included. Several places have moreover sent large supplies of provisions, &c. to the sufferers.

Elephant's Bones disinterred by the Floods.—In the inundations near Loenen, in the district of the Upper Betewe, has been discovered the right hip-bone of an Elephant, measuring from the *os pubis* to the end of the hip, 3½ feet (Rhyland measure) of which the scientific Mr. H. Hoogens has taken a drawing on the spot:—the bone is at present in the possession of M. F. Beverinek, land surveyor at

Nymeguen.—A double tooth, together with several other elephant bones, have likewise been discovered on the same spot. Also, the jawbone of an ox of an extraordinary size.

ITALY.

Earthquake.—Naples, 28 Feb. In the night between the 16th and 17th instant the inhabitants of St. Germano and its neighbourhood were so much alarmed by an earthquake, that they instantly quitted their dwellings; and rushed into the open fields; where they remained the whole of the following day, as the shocks continued to succeed each other with the greatest rapidity.

POLAND.

Warsaw.—We learn from Lithuania that since the 1st of January, the wind blowing very sharp from the northward, the thermometer stood at 28 degrees [of Reaumur, we suppose]. Several peasants and carriers have perished on the public roads, by the extreme severity of the weather; *even the birds were frozen in the air; and fell lifeless on the ground.* In this city the thermometer stood, at the beginning of the month, at 33. At the close of the month it stood at 20 degrees. There has been a vast deal of snow in Lithuania, and in the duchy of Warsaw. The wolves assemble in large troops; and commit the greatest devastations. In the neighbourhood of Grodno, were found the head and a foot of a peasant's wife, who had been devoured by the wolves.

SWITZERLAND.

In the mountains near Coire such a heavy fall of snow has taken place, that the impetus of its massy torrent, rolling with extreme violence from the top, has destroyed the beautiful village of Salva, which had been but recently built. Six houses are wholly destroyed by this projectile mass, and the rest are all more or less damaged. Twenty-six persons, suffocated to death, have been dug out of the snow; and seventeen persons, after remaining 24 hours under the snow, have been recovered: chiefly owing to the exertions of a worthy ecclesiastic, named Villier.

* * These accounts are drawn from the best authorities: and for the most part, from official documents of the different states and governments, to which they refer. Many more might be added.

AMERICA, NORTH.

North American Colonies, commercial State of.—A gentleman in America writes, to a merchant in Liverpool, the following official list of exports shipped from Quebec, between Jan. 1, (more correctly May 1), and Nov. 12, 1808. A considerable quantity of produce was shipped afterwards. 186,708 bushels wheat; 12,462 barrels flour; 31,587 quintals biscuits; 52,934 bushels pease; 15,830

ditto flax seed; 179 tierces pork; 1,732 barrels ditto; 2,949 quintals cod fish; 6,485 ox horns; 30,838 casks pot and pearl ashes; 12,372 pieces of oak timber; 14,510 ditto pine ditto; 1,821,851 staves and heading; 62,453 stave ends; 191,177 pine board and planks; 209 pieces oak plank; 4,114 handspikes; 6,723 oars; 3,994 masts; 373 bowsprits; 1,612 pine spars; 215,500 hoops 12 feet long; 60,500 shingles; 130,915 pieces lathwood; 21,126 pieces scantling. In the course of this period (less than eleven months) there were cleared out from Quebec 334 vessels, measuring 70,275 tons, and employing 3,330 men. The new shipping employed during this period is calculated at 3,902 tons.

FRANCE.

Republican Humanity.—General Laval. This general is nominated, by the Duke of Montebello, Governor of Saragossa. In 1794, this *amiable* officer addressed a letter to the Commune of Paris, containing the following striking passage, which we give as we find it, that its force and ferocity may not suffer by a translation into our language, which, to the honour of the country, does not, we venture to affirm, record parallel passages.—“ Je commande devant Manheim. “ Nous continuons à ravager le riche pays de “ nos ennemis. Nous ne laissons que les “ yeux à pleurer. Vive la République! Nous “ sommes tous généreux Sans-Culottes, de “ nom et d’effet. Nous l’adorons, ô Sainte- “ Guillotine! Que tu as fait des miracles: “ tu vaux mieux que cent mille hommes: “ ça va, ça ira! Vive la montagne!”

Execution of Gen. Dupont.—The unfortunate General Dupont, who, with his army, surrendered prisoners of war in Andalusia, last summer, has fallen a victim to the resentment of Buonaparte. He was tried by a court martial, and, as a matter of course, he was condemned to death. This sentence was immediately after put into execution, and he was shot by torch-light. This act of severity, or rather of cruelty, has, it is stated, excited considerable disgust among the French generals. The private murder of Villeneuve, and the public execution of Dupont, for misfortunes which they had not the power to avoid, afford most striking proofs to Buonaparte’s officers, of the very precarious tenure by which they hold their lives.

Pretended Spies.—Paris, March, 31. The Military Committee appointed to inquire into the affair of Chateaubriand, closed this day their debates, and condemned M. de Chateaubriand, de Gouyon, Quintal, and Boizo, (Luvas’s son), as convicted agents and spies of England, to suffer death, having received money and instructions for that purpose. Chateaubriand was apprehended the very moment he was going to embark for England.

Documents were found about him which clearly proved his guilt, as well as that of his accomplices.

Some have supposed that this is the celebrated M. de Chateaubriand, our friend, who has so often contributed to the amusement of our readers. Want of room obliges us to postpone particulars of our enquiries.—At present we know not whether this sufferer be that eminent writer, or another M. de Chateaubriand who was an officer of Chouans, and a very active partizan.

GERMANY.

Newspapers suppressed.—Two German newspapers have been suppressed by order of the French government, in consequence of their having mentioned the fact of extensive desertions having taken place among the troops of the Rhenish Confederation in Spain.

Jews promoted.—In the kingdom of Westphalia great numbers of Jews have been made high officers of state, and received orders of knighthood, and other marks of distinction.

Prussian Loan.—The King of Prussia has opened a loan for one million of rix-dollars, which is to be paid off in the year 1814. The interest or premiums on the several shares vary, and are to be determined in the manner of a lottery.

Benovolent Contributions.—The voluntary contributions for the sufferers at Ulm and its neighbourhood, during the campaign of 1805, amounts to 33,788 florins, of which sum the city of London, to its high honour be it recorded, subscribed nearly one half, namely 15,346 florins, and North America 3422. The damage which Ulm sustained was estimated at 1,000,000 florins, and the 50 neighbouring villages 786,229 florins.—To the former has been allotted, of the contribution in question, 17,251; and to the latter, 16,458 florins.

HOLLAND.

Original typographical Form, or Page.—Notice.—To be sold by public auction, on the 20th of April, by Haak, bookseller at Leyden, a curious and genuine specimen of the labours of Laurens Jansz, commonly called Laurens Coster; the original inventor of the art of printing. This valuable piece of antiquity consists of a wooden printing-form, in a very excellent state of preservation: it is about 3 inches long, 2 inches broad, and $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch thick, upon which an entire page of a Latin *Horarium*, has been cut in inverted characters, and of which two impressions have been added as a specimen.—Also a genealogical table written upon very old parchment, but perfectly legible, of the progeny of Laurens, by whom it seems, this document has been preserved since the 15th century, and handed down to each succeeding generation.—This

genealogy commences with the daughter of Laurens Coster, who published the first printed impression in the year 1441, and closes with her descendants, about the year 1585.

INDIES, WEST.

Island Productions : Staves.—White oak staves, in consequence of the American embargo, have been sold in the West Indies at £80 per 1000. Large supplies, however, were expected to arrive in the spring from the British colonies in America. In the meanwhile, to secure the rum crop, several planters at Falmouth in Jamaica, had been induced to make trial of two different kinds of wood, the growth of that island, for rum puncheons; the first—the *Maho*—it was found would split and work easy, make a neat puncheon, but it gave the liquor an unpleasant taste: the second—the *Santa Maria*—answered every purpose, and would not only preserve the rum in its pure state, to any part of the world, but was found less subject to leakage than even the American white oak puncheon.—There is great abundance of *Santa Maria* trees on the island, which, when split into staves, will not cost the planter more than £15 per thousand; and thus probably will supersede the use of the American wood altogether.

Negro Magic.—Two negroes, of advanced age, were lately convicted at Jamaica, of practising the *Obeah*, and sentenced to death. They had, by the performances of these magical rites, it appeared, acquired prodigious influence over the slaves belonging to the estates in their vicinity, many of whom were ready to devote themselves to ruin in blind obedience to their commands. On several occasions, however, their power had been subservient to the ends of justice, particularly in causing the restitution of stolen property, and in deterring their brethren from deserting. On this account an inclination was manifested to save them, and they were reprieved for a short time; but the dread and hazard of suffering this practice to pass with a lenient punishment, so alarmed some of the planters, that a remonstrance was presented, and they were executed according to their sentence.

ITALY.

Discoveries of Antiquities.—At the villa of Count Moroni, near Rome, were lately discovered the tombs of the ancient Roman family of Manlia. They were found to contain 2 statues, 5 busts, and an urn; all of them in a tolerably good state of preservation; and distinguished with the name of Manlius. Two skeletons, which have been dug up at the feet of the above mentioned statues, had still rings on their fingers. Next to the skeleton of a woman, named Agathonia, was found the shell of an egg,

an oil bottle, a broken mirror, and a lamp. Upon this lamp was represented Tarquinius, son of the seventh and last King of Rome, carrying a dagger in his hand, at the moment that he was going to violate Lucretia. Baron de Hasselin, minister from H. M. the King of Bavaria to the Holy See, has purchased those valuable antiquities, which are at least 2000 years old.

RUSSIA,

Statistical Account of, Anno 1807.

Marriages (members of the Greek church).....	288,788
Births (males)	703,632
Do. (females)	630,970
	1,334,602
Deaths (males).....	454,092
Do. (females).....	411,992
	866,084
Births Increase	468,518

Ages.

Between 105 and 110 years	86 persons
110	36
115	24
120	4
125	6

Most recent Statement of Russian Commerce.—From a very interesting work, written by Count Romanzow, entitled "State of the Commerce of the Russian Empire from 1802 to 1808," we learn that, in the year 1803, the value of foreign commodities imported into Russia, amounted to 55 millions of roubles; and the export to 67 millions of roubles; the duties amounted to 111,000 roubles, more than in the preceding year. In 1804, owing to the difficulties of commercial speculations, the imports were minus 6 millions of roubles, and the exports 3 millions of roubles; although, even then, the balance in favour of Russia amounted to 9,517,440 roubles; but in 1803 it amounted to 21,590,968 roubles. In 1805, notwithstanding the almost total stagnation of trade, the imports amounted to 6 millions of roubles, and the exports to 13½ millions of roubles, more than in 1804. The balance in favour of Russia, was 25½ millions of roubles. The exports of corn amounted to more than 20 millions of roubles, exceeded those of the preceding year by 12 millions of roubles. The number of ships arrived, at and departed from Russian ports stood as follows:

	<i>Arrived.</i>	<i>Sailed.</i>
In 1802.....	3,730	3,622
1803.....	4,135	4,157
1804.....	3,478	3,471
1805.....	5,332	5,085

By far the greater part of them English. In 1803, the number of ships trading to the ports of Russia was—

Arrived 996. Sailed 926.

The exchange on Hamburgh, which in 1802 and 1805, had sustained itself from 23 to 27½ and 29, fell in 1803 to 15 and 16.

*. We need make no remark on this statement: the difference between more than five thousand vessels, and less than one thousand speaks for itself.

Rich Russian Subject.—Count Schremetiew, the richest subject in Russia, died at Petersburg of a rheumatic fever in the 59th year of his age, leaving behind him property to the value of nearly two millions sterling. His annual revenue was about £200,000. His only son is an infirm boy, of six years of age.

SPAIN.

Proclamation to Deserters from the French Army.—On the 10th of February, a proclamation was published by the Junta at Seville, of which the following is a copy:—"Germans, Poles, Swiss, Dutchmen, and Italians, in the French armies.—Austria and Turkey have declared against France. The fall of the infamous Napoleon is at hand. You have no other prospect than to die in Spain or in the north; if you wish to avoid that fate, Spain offers you employment in her armies, and will give to every man that shall join her 10 hard dollars; if he brings his musket 15, and if he is a horseman, and brings his horse, the price of the latter over and above the reward. Such individuals as shall not be inclined to enlist in our army, shall be sent by sea, either to their own country, or to that where they may choose to fix their residence."

POLITICAL PERISCOPE.

Panorama Office, April 26, 1809.

The ancient Augurs were accustomed to derive their predictions from the flight of birds, and generally from birds of prey. What there was in their actions which could by any presumption be referred or assimilated to the actions of men exceeds our comprehension. But modern Augurs, in deriving prognostics from the flights of the potentates of the earth, seem to depend, so far as dependence may be affirmed of them, on a principle somewhat more analogous to the subject of speculation to which it is applied. When sovereigns in our part of the globe, meet by appointment, suspicion immediately infers, that they have business to settle of a nature which could not so well be entrusted to deputies. The crafty statesman sometimes makes a journey of pleasure, as is thought by the

world, subservient to his political purposes: sometimes he visits places which are supposed to be the principal objects of his excursion, when, in fact, others not so evident, were his primary but latent motives. Benevolence or amusement has rarely been the sole cause of a sovereign's leaving his country: and a military sovereign least of all. When Buonaparte quitted France for Italy, it was not with intention to benefit either France or Italy, but to further his projects on Spain: when he quitted France for Spain, it was not to ameliorate the condition of that country, but to wreak his vengeance on a nation which he stigmatised as rebellious! He destroyed inhabitants not a few: he mowed down with the scythe of death thousands of unoffending natives; but, he suddenly left his work unfinished, and the tenure by which his deputy holds his throne is precarious in no common degree. The public awaits his next flight, as another signal for destruction and carnage. No one expects from it the smallest relief of human woe, the lightest diminution of that weight under which the oppressed labourer sinks, the smallest abatement of those inconveniences of which the industrious artizan complains, or of those burdens to which the merchant is subjected. Nothing by which man may be benefitted, is augured from his motions: he is the raven not the dove, the vulture intent on carrion, not the sprightly, generous, and gallant cock.

When Satan,

on the tree of life

Sat like a Cormorant,

he felt some compunction: he could 'melt at harmless innocence:' he could 'excuse his devilish deeds,' by pleading dire 'necessity;'

Public reason just,

Honour, and empire, with revenge enlarg'd,
compels me now

To do, what else (though damna'd) I should abhor: but Satan was "no less than th' Arch-angel fallen": not so Buonaparte; he is Emperor and King,—none believes that 'compunctious visitings of nature' penetrate the bosom of the Iron-crowned Sovereign; or that his heart startles at the 'long-woes' which he meditates to inflict far as his sight or thought extends. And this is the man whom his shameless parasites affect to call *Great! The Great!*—who to prevent truth from irradiating mankind, appoints, by armed force, despots over the press; who suppresses the (dead) Inquisition in Spain, but revives it with tenfold vigour in Germany; who in opposition to the honest intercourse between man and man, affects to bind even the ocean in shackles; less rational than Xerxes who forged chains for the Hellespont, and directed it to submit to castigation, because it had disobeyed his orders.—What proofs are these of greatness?

The term is disgraced by such misapplication ; almost as much as the wretch himself disgraces humanity by his pestiferous and overwhelming misanthropy. We envy him not the polluted enjoyments of Paris : let him wallow in them, would he but leave other parts of the earth unmolested ; let him there meditate on the blood shed by his hands, to which that city bears witness, and there let him expiate, if it can be expiated, that guilt to elude the remembrance of which he may run over country after country ; but of which the sting like the barbed arrow is deeply fixed in his very vitals.

The expected war between Austria and France has not, as yet, actually commenced, that we know of ; there is every symptom of its approach ; and a Proclamation from the Arch-Duke Charles has reached us, in which he announces his determination to lead the defenders of their country to glory. The unachieved conquest of Spain, acts as a motive for delay on the part of the Corsican, and should he be ultimately defeated in that country, the disgrace of his arms there will tend to promote their further disgrace. The spirit of the Spaniards is not, it appears, evaporated ; they may experience further favours from fortune ; and should they happily surmount their prejudices and their languor, they may do much. In fact, much has been done by them ; or rather by a part of their nation. They want unity, and community : the defect is that of their old constitution ; increased by the disorganizing measures of their late traitorous government ; it results in some degree from the different races of men which inhabit the Peninsula. Could this be rectified, all were safe. The French find a formidable opposition where they did not expect any : they find sufferings too, and in proportion as they depopulate these countries, already too thinly peopled, their sufferings will increase, till they become irremediable.

The same observations may be applied to Portugal, as to Spain. The people may have cause to complain of their rulers ; but they do not appear to possess the firmness and vigour, and consentaneous feelings necessary to rule themselves to superior advantage.

If, undismayed by these uncertainties, Austria should take a determined part ; if some other powers should step forward to support her in the day of struggle, there is no foretelling the issue. Italy has certainly complained bitterly against the horrible conscription to which she has been subjected ; but Italy has lost her virtue : she must therefore endure : she may complain, she may struggle, she may scream ; but the tone of her mind is neither manly nor affecting : she is an awful lesson ! — a lesson teaching what must be avoided and dreaded. We scarcely know, whether she is capable of producing one eminent and

leading mind, who may sway the opinion of his countrymen ; and whether if such an one should arise, his countrymen have heads, hearts, and souls to follow where he leads, or understanding sufficient to suffer themselves to be led by his superior intelligence. In this Italy is, in our apprehension, below Turkey : should some truly great man arise among the Ottomans, that empire will defy the Corsican with all his adherents. France may assault, the assault will be bloody ; destructive, but abortive ; Russia may assist ; but the assistance will cost Russia dear : it will be dishonourable : it may also be ruinous. We are not partial to the Turks, as a government, uncouth, fanatic, arbitrary, vexatious, intolerant and ignorant : that it has stood so long is the wonder ; but this induces us to admit the supposition that it may be the will of Providence to suffer it to stand a little longer. — A reprieve may be ordained : more cannot be expected.

In another part of this number the reader has seen the history of the most formidable enemy to the Turks, because, internal principles are always dangerous ; but especially to a government founded on religious prejudices. Whether the principles intended to be substituted are better than those they supercede, is not the question : the fact, it is likely, will prove, that what undermines the religion of the state, involves the government also in the general ruin.

Does Russia stand an unaffected spectator of these proceedings ? We presume she does not. When the character of a Prince is gone, by reason of the bad company he has kept, no rational mind will venture to pronounce any atrocity too bad for his adoption. State policy may blind the eyes of those who obey its illusions, to the evil natural, moral, and political of their conduct—but awake they must, though it may be too late.

The revolutionists in Sweden, by whom the king is dethroned, and under whom he is imprisoned, will attempt to restore peace to that kingdom : we have repeatedly given it as our opinion, that war was not the true interest of Sweden, yet we doubt much whether in the present instance that country has not struck upon Scylla while endeavouring to avoid Charybdis.

Denmark has long since found that the name of liberty and independence as a state, differs essentially from the thing itself. Denmark is as free to follow her own motions as the Satellites of Jupiter are to quit their planet ; or the stone thrown upward to pursue its course without descending to the earth.

The only true independent nation is Holland : and she must be independent, because America has declared that she is so : — to which we may add, because she, having heretofore prided herself on being a republic, is now a

The United Kingdom may be considered as holding at this moment the balance of efficient consideration. In this kingdom, only, can a large sum of money, equal to the sudden demands of a campaign, be raised in a few hours: or stores and ammunition of war be spared from the national magazines, in quantities sufficient to supply armies, without diminishing the defence of the realm: or clothing, accoutrements for man and horse, medicines, and other necessities be exported by thousands, and tens of thousands, without any scarcity being felt in the market. Britain has no silver mines, yet can furnish silver to those who have: Britain has neither saltpetre works nor volcanoes, yet her gunpowder is the best in use, and she sends out barrels of it by thousands. In short, the stores of Britain are very great: and her power of supply must, and does, strike foreign nations with wonder.

It is every way probable, that the power of Britain will be farther exemplified.—Austria has crossed the boundaries assigned her by Buonaparte: this is war; but it may be considered as certain, that Austria would not have taken this step without an understanding with Britain, and an expectation of assistance (pecuniary, no doubt) with which she cannot suddenly supply herself. This die appears to be cast; and thus, by the false step of engaging a great proportion of his troops in Spain, the despot of the continent is reduced to the impossibility of attending to concerns so distant with equal vigour. Whereas, both may look to Britain for as much co-operation as before; she can furnish money to one, and stores to the other, with undiminished vigour.

The naval superiority of Britain is still maintained, under the favour of Providence, by her squadrons and vessels. France has lately felt it, in the capture of single, but valuable ships, to a remarkable degree. Not less than six or seven of the finest frigates in the Gallic navy have, within a short time, been lost to her service: and this by British opponents of inferior numerical force. She has also lost four men of war of the line of battle, by an exploit of the most gallant description, well planned and well executed, against the only fleet that she has ventured out to sea, with a chance of meeting her enemy, during more than a twelvemonth. This fleet, which sailed from Brest with intent to catch an English squadron, is itself caught: and probably, of about twelve men of war, and about eight frigates, which quitted that port together, not more than two or three will return to it in safety.

The loss of the French settlement at Cayenne is not of serious detriment to France; and as to a place of transport for offenders against the crown and dignity of the
Vox. VI. [Lit. Pan. May 1809]

Emperor and King—he will find Cayenne enough in the numerous *Maisons de Force* which, throughout France, have succeeded the Bastille at Paris. The loss of the island of Martinique will be more sensibly felt; it is injurious to the connections, the commerce, the glory of France; but more especially to the marine of that kingdom. Supposing Guadalupe to follow it, France will have no settlement to which to send a ship but the Mauritius; and that, certainly, will be in danger. So much for the success attending the conqueror at Ulm, in his endeavours to obtain “Ships, Colonies, and Commerce!”

Britain is benefited by these events, not so much as they are a gain to her, as by their being a loss to her enemy. But they will probably prove a great advantage to Britain in her relations with America. That country has no further inducement to take part with France. The influence of France will gradually decline. No art can re-establish it, after mercantile connections are extinct. And, perhaps, we are not extremely wide of the mark, when we say that the sale of Louisiana to America, by Buonaparte, was a short-sighted measure. He had the cash—that is spent: he has neither the interest nor the commerce to which that possession might have given stability.

The sentiments of America towards Britain, at present, stand at a kind of bay. She is desirous of preserving what she affects to think, or really may think, her dignity; yet of reconciling this with the prosperity of her commerce. Mr. Jefferson's presidency has expired: Mr. Madison, who succeeds him, has commenced his official career with an eulogium on his predecessor. This may be nothing more than the regular court compliments imposed by etiquette, the bow of the party taking the chair to the party who quits it. But, if we may rely on the measures adopted in America, as speaking the sentiments of the ensuing presidency, they augur more subterfuge than policy, more shifting than skill. America has affected to consider only the powers of Great Britain and France as principals—in fact, as belligerents in the war now raging; and other European states, acting under the influence of these leaders, as neutrals. Holland, for instance, is a neutral; yet Holland issued a declaration of war against Britain: Spain is a neutral; yet so much of Spain as obeys the General Junta acts under a declaration of war against France, and so much of it as is subjugated by the French armies, acts under a declaration of war against Britain. Spain may be divided; neutral it cannot be. Portugal, Italy, Denmark, &c. are subject to the same remarks; and the change of relative circumstances is so rapid in Europe, that what is reported neutral in America to day, may be reported hos-

tile next month. This distinction of words implies no great wisdom in the councils of the new world: whether it may be able to effect any distinctions in *things* time will shew.

As to the internal situation of Britain, it is, as to the principles of real strength, flourishing: as to the administration of those principles, it is at this moment somewhat qualmish. The mistakes of the ministry in the Duke of York's business were gross; but these, their friends say, were not justly imputable to them: they were misled by the MAN who ought to have known better. Their enemies are making the most of the advantages gained, and all parts of the kingdom echo reproaches of — "infamy attaching somewhere," of corruption, profligacy, debauch, &c. &c. in high stations. We are not liable to the suspicion of covering vice by connivance; and therefore may say explicitly, that the language in which some of these *doings* are couched, is very reprehensible; it is neither grammar nor sense; neither just nor decorous. If the thanks of such wiseacres as the authors of it were desirable, we might advise them to thank the lawyers, whose hardened cross-examinations roused the opposite passion (we do not say, *virtue*) of consideration; and the ministry, without whose persevering voyages of discovery, the original accusations would have wanted their main support. These clamours, however, will die away. As popular effervescence, we give them leave; but those will be wise ministers, and deserving of everlasting renown on the part of their country, who take effectual measures to supersede the causes of them effectually, and *bonâ fide*, in future.

Supplies sent to Spain and Portugal.

Official Account of the expence incurred in furnishing arms and other ordnance supplies to the Spaniards and Portuguese, since May 1808, prepared pursuant to an Order of the Honourable House of Commons, dated March 27, 1809, £670,128 17s. 1d.

Sent since the 1st of May, 1808.

Pieces of Cannon 98 and 31,680 Rounds of Ammunition.
Howitzers — 38 — 7,200 do.
Carronades — 20 — 4,000 do.

Musquets — 206,177
Rifles — 280
Swords — 61,391
Pikes — 79,000

Infantry Accoutrements, sets — 39,000
Ball Cartridges 23,477,955
Lead Balls — 6,060,000

Whole Barrels of Powder — 15,408
Specie — £1,934,903

Bills of Exchange negotiated — 220,404
Camp Equipage — 10,000
Tents — 40,000

Linen — Yards 118,000
Cloth (pieces) — 298
Shirts — 4,100
Pouches — 47,000

Boots — 29,400
Shoes — 233,400
Butts — 100

To be shipped as soon as received from Contractors.
Boots — 29,400
Shoes — 233,400
Butts — 100

Clothes — 298
Shirts — 4,100
Pouches — 47,000
Boots — 29,400
Shoes — 233,400
Butts — 100

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

Midland District.

The wheat crops of both the late and early sowings have come on well since our last; and at present, in many places, quite cover over the surface of the ground. They, perhaps, never looked more favourably, in general, at this period of the year. The winter barleys and ryes are also pretty much in the same situation. The winter tare and rape crops in different districts have likewise a very fine appearance at this time. The late turnip crops have also afforded a large supply of both green and other food for the support of sheep and cattle stock, during the latter part of the present month, and have been particularly favourable for the lambing ewes in many situations. The unusual fineness of the season, through the whole of last month, has afforded a fine opportunity of putting in spring crops in complete perfection, and great breadths of ground have been already sown with oats, spring wheats, and other spring crops, in the best possible state of preservation. Notwithstanding the frosts and snows which we have had, a succession of fine weather next month will restore every thing except the wall fruit.

Hemp has been sown to a large extent in the fen counties, and the expected bounty of 5s. per bushel on flax seed has already brought in sufficient quantities of it to reduce the price of that article from 25 to 6 guineas per hogshead, and to insure a sufficiency for the demand of Ireland. The hop plantations, under careful cultivation, push their bine strongly to the pole. Young ray grasses, and clovers, promise an early and plentiful succession of spring seed. The meadows, and lay-pastures are likewise forward enough in many inclosed countries, to receive fattening stock already. Wool markets are lowering owing to large importations of Merino wool from Spain.

County of Essex.

It may be remarked for the last month past that never did either the wheats or the spring crops make less progress at this time of the year. The weather being so cold, and for the last fortnight so wet, many pieces of oats and barley cannot vegetate, although sowing is pretty near finished. Neither do the clovers, the rye grass, or any other seed, appear to advantage. The plants of beans and peas take very well at present; the farmers report that they have plenty of wheats in hand. Oats are rather scarce, there has lately been some decay among the sheep. Potatoes are much advanced in price.

County of Suffolk.

The season is cold to get in spring corn, but we have nearly finished sowing, in hopes of warm weather which is particularly wanted. The wheats at present have taken no harm; but some on cold lands look yellow; in general they look well; the grass and clover layers will make no progress, till warm weather.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

FROM THE 20TH OF MARCH, TO THE 20TH OF
APRIL, 1809.

BIRTHS.

Of Sons.

- At Hamilton Place, the Countess of Cork.
At Edlington Grove, Lincolnshire, the lady of R. S. Short, Esq.
At Hooton, Cheshire, the lady of Sir S. T. M. Stanley, Bart.
The lady of J. Burdon, Esq. of the Lawn, South Lambeth (two sons).
The lady of Caleb Whiteford, Esq.
In Finsbury-square, the lady of M. Gilinne, Esq.
At Southgate, at her father's house Sir William Curtis, Bart. the lady of H. C. Adams, of Ansty Hall, Warwickshire, Esq.

Of Daughters.

- In Baker-street, Portman-square, the lady of J. Morris, Esq.
The lady of R. Fuller, Esq. of the Rookery, Dorking, Surrey.
The lady of Capt. D. Dundas, R. N.
Lady Waterpark.
At Hanrood House, the lady of the Hon. H. Lascelles.
In York street, the lady of the Hon. J. E. Turnour.
In Portman-square, the lady of Sir J. Johnstone.
At Darley Dale, the lady of R. Hart, Esq.
At Brighton, the lady of Capt. Kennedy.
The lady of Wm. Cavendish, Esq. M. P.
At Deptford, the lady of T. Grenville, Esq.
The lady of T. Lethbridge, Esq. M. P.
The lady of P. Francis, Esq.
In Charlotte-street, Bedford-square, the lady of George Courthope, Esq.

MARRIAGES.

- G. H. Parker, Esq. of Chelsea, to Miss Mercer, of Devonshire-street, Portland-place.
Capt. H. Bellingham, of the Bengal army, to Miss H. E. Cruden.
G. Reade, Esq. of Alderholt Park, to Miss F. Oake, of Ringwood.
Capt. G. Heathcote, son of Sir W. Heathcote, Bart. to Miss Lyell, of Southampton.
E. B. Symes, Esq. to the daughter of W. Jammett, Esq. of Milton-house, Oxfordshire.
S. P. Parson, LL.D. of Doctors' Commons, to Miss Ward, daughter of the late Col. Ward, of Great Wilbraham, Cambridgeshire.
At Mortlake, Surrey, the Rev. S. Porten, to Miss H. S. Willett, daughter of the late A. S. Willett, Esq. of Port-hill, Devonshire.
At Knutsford, in Cheshire, the Rev. L. Dixon, chaplain to Sir H. M. Mainwaring, Bart. to Miss Drake, daughter of the late T. Drake, Esq. of Knutsford.
Capt. Harvey, of the 18th dragoons, to the widow of Capt. Woodgate, eldest daughter of the Earl of Cavan.
T. H. Miller, Esq. of Dalswinton, to the eldest daughter of Col. Ram, M. P. for Wexford.
Capt. T. F. Baugh, R. N. to the daughter of the late E. Scott, Esq.

- J. Hodgson, Esq. of Burgh, near Carlisle, to Miss Barker, of Tavistock-street, Bedford-square.
Wm. Berkeley, Esq. of Billiter-square, to Lucy Frederica, youngest daughter and co-heiress of J. K. Comyns, Esq. late of Hylands, in the county of Essex.
E. J. Esdaile, Esq. son of W. Esdaile, Esq. of Clapham Common, to Miss E. Drake, of Taunton.
At Whitehall, the Right Hon. Lord Gardner, Rear-Admiral of the Blue, to the Hon. C. Smith, daughter of Lord Carrington.
The Rev. R. Crosby, M.A. to Miss Middleton, of Ripley, Surrey.
Capt. L. G. Jones, of the 1st foot guards, to Miss Miller, youngest daughter of P. Miller, Esq. of Dalswinton.
S. Farrer, Esq. of Cole Brayfield, Bucks, to Mrs. Mitford, relict of Capt. H. Mitford, R. N.
H. Harmoore, Esq. of New Norfolk-street, to Isabella, daughter of the late Adm. Cumming.

DEATHS.

- At Clapham Rise, at Mr. Sketchley's, after a lingering illness, Mrs. Barnett, aged 71, relict of the late Caleb Barnett, Esq. of Warwick.
At Clapham Common, John Bradney, Esq. 78.
At Writtle, in Essex, the Right Hon. Lord Petre.
T. Wood, Esq. of Hanger-hill, in the Commission of the Peace for the county of Middlesex, 74.
At Hackney, J. F. Blanke, Esq. aged 77.
The Duchess of Bolton.
At Plymouth, N. Vincent, Esq. sen. Adm. of the Red.
At Litchfield, the celebrated Miss Anna Seward.
Rev. T. Burgess, Rector of Reedwith, Barking.
At Delaval Park, the lady of Maj. Gen. Ferriar.
At Vienna, the well-known Minister of State, Count Cobentzel.
Mrs. Erskine, wife of A. Erskine, Esq. of Bathall, North Britain.
Capt. J. Henyman, of the Marines.
T. Wood, Esq. of Hanger-hill, Middlesex.
T. Smith, Esq. of Tachbrook, Warwickshire, in his 101st year.
At Ballevill, Rosshire, the Dowager Mrs. Chisholm.
At Balfsee House, Gloucestershire, Mrs. D. R. Barker.
At Durham, Mrs. J. Sharp, sister of the late Rev. Dr. Sharp, Prebendary of Durham, and Archdeacon of Northumberland.
In Bedford-row, in the 74th year of her age, Mrs. Blake, wife of W. Blake, Esq. banker.
The lady of R. Sparrow, Esq. of Worlingham-hall, Suffolk.
At Charlton-house, near Sunbury, Miss E. C. Smyth, youngest daughter of Dr. C. Smyth.
At Battersea, A. Champion, Esq.
In Upper Harley-street, S. Ross, wife of Alex. Ross, Esq.
B. Heath, Esq. of Stanstead-hall, Essex.
At Dublin, aged 84, the Rt. Hon. J. M. Mason.
At Dover, aged 69, Admiral Bazeley.
At Dublin, Major D. Gahan.
At Winstanley-hall, Lancashire, the lady of M. Banks, Esq.
At Edmonton, aged 76, Mrs. Taylor, relict of Mr. Isaac Taylor, engraver; memoirs of whom are given in Panorama, Vol. III. p. 809.

At Burton, Northamptonshire, the Rev. S. Barwick. The only daughter of F. D. Harris, Esq. of Hayne, Devonshire.

At Edinburgh, the Right Hon. Christina Elizabeth, Dowager Countess of Kincore.

At Brynbel, Denbighshire, G. Piozzi, Esq. husband of the once celebrated Mrs. Thrale.

At Walworth, H. North, Esq.

G. H. Towny, Esq. one of the Commissioners of the Transport Board.

G. Parker, Esq. First Commissioner for the Six-penny Duties payable to Greenwich Hospital.

At Bristol, F. Tanriere, Esq. son of J. Tanriere, Esq. of Pinner, Middlesex.

J. Atkinson, Esq. of Bedford-row.

At Southampton, on her birth-day, Mrs. M. Nicklin, aged 92.

In Upper Harley-street, the lady of Sir T. J. Sibbald, Bart.

T. Boone, Esq. of Sunbury.

On the 29th March, after an illness of a few days only, of the scarlet fever, Frances Louisa; on the 3d of April, Laura Charlotte; and on the 6th of April, Emma; daughters of John Granville, of Stafford-row, Pimlico, Esq.

In Craig's-court, Charing-cross, Dr. Pitcairn.

MILITARY PROMOTIONS.

STAFF, &c. IN 1809.

APRIL 4.—8th Reg of Foot—Capt. Edw. Cotton, major.

92d Dillo—Brevet Lieut.-col. J. Lamont, lieutenant-col.; Capt. J. Mitchell, major.

4th West India Reg.—Maj. J. Buchan, from 2d Ceylon reg. lieutenant-col.

2d Ceylon Reg.—Capt. J. Armstrong, major.

Hospital Staff.—G. J. Ogilby, M.D. physician to the forces.

—8.—Brevet—Lieut.-col. L. Macquarrie, of the 73d foot, to have the rank of col. in the colony of New South Wales.

Staff.—Maj. H. Loftus, from 17th light dragoons, an inspecting field officer of the militia in Nova Scotia (with the rank of lieutenant-col. in the army), vice King, appointed to the 5th foot.

—15.—Brevet—Major-gen. J. C. Sherbrooke, W. Payne, and the Hon. W. Pagett, lieutenant-generals in Portugal during the continuance of their service in that country.

—18.—Brevet—The undermentioned officers to have a permanent step of promotion in the army, upon being appointed to serve in Portugal under the command of Lieut.-gen. Beresford.

To be majors—Capt. R. Arbutnot, from Chasseurs Britanniques; Capt. W. P. Carroll, from 88th foot; Capt. H. Harding, from 57th foot; Capt. H. Le Mesurier, from 21st foot; Capt. P. K. Roche, from 4th garr. batt.; and Capt. G. Elder, from 95th foot.

The King's German Legion.—1st Light Batt.—Capt. F. de Hartwig, from 7th batt. of the line, major, with temporary rank.

UNIVERSITY PROCEEDINGS AND PROMOTIONS.

Oxford.

March 15. The following gentlemen have been admitted: Doctor in Divinity, Rev. F. Mead, B.D.

and Rev. W. Alcock.—Bachelor in Divinity, Rev. M. H. Matthews, M.A.—Masters of Arts, Rev. R. Finch, B.A.; Rev. C. D. Willaume; Rev. M. D. Taylor; and Rev. F. Woodcock.

—22. The following gentlemen were admitted to degrees: Masters of Arts, Rev. T. C. Adams, of Merton col.; Rev. B. Cooper, of Wadham col.; Rev. C. E. Collins, of Worcester col.

Mr. M. Rolleston was elected fel. of University col. on Sir S. Bennet's foundation.

April 12. Admitted Masters of Arts, Mr. J. Gould, of University col.; Rev. W. White and Rev. J. Lightfoot, of Merton col.; Rev. L. Loring, of Magdalen col.; Rev. W. Handbury, of Christ church; Rev. C. Chisholm and Rev. P. Jennings, of Worcester col.; Rev. C. F. Parker, of Pembroke col.; Mr. J. Stevens and Rev. T. Knox, of Brasenose; and Rev. T. Phelps, of Jesus col.—Bachelors of Arts, Mr. W. Long, of Oriel col.; Mr. J. Villar, of Worcester col.; Mr. J. Simpson, of St. Edmund hall; Mr. J. T. J. C. Le Mesurier and Mr. J. B. Bingham, of Brasenose.

Rev. F. H. Brickenden, M.A. Fel. of Worcester col. and Rev. W. Everett, M.A. Fellow of New college, admitted Proctors.

Rev. T. Hayward and Rev. W. Williams, M.A. Fel. of Worcester col.; Revs J. E. Rathbone and Rev. G. Sherer, M.A. Fellows of New col. Proctors.

Cambridge.

March 15. Mr. E. H. Alderson and Mr. J. Standly, B.A. of Caius col. are elected Fel. of that society.

—20. Messrs. J. T. Cook, R. B. Armstrong, W. Ainger, and J. Cottrell, B.A. of St. John's col. elected Foundation Fel. of that society; Mr. J. B. Wilkinson, and Mr. G. W. Kelly, B.A. elected Fel. of that society on the foundation of Mr. Platt.

—23. W. Heath, Esq. of King's coll. admitted a Fel. of that society.

The following gentlemen are admitted Masters of Arts, Messrs. H. Atlay, J. S. Coleman, T. Jephson, F. Merewether, T. Tatham, and H. Walter, of St. John's; W. Bolland, J. Lawton, F. H. Maberly, and T. E. Miller, of Trinity col.; W. Wilson, and C. Arcedeckne, of Jesus; R. P. Buddicom, of Queen's; C. E. Finch, of Bene't; J. T. Barrett, of Peterhouse; and Wm. Gee, of Sidney col.

K. F. Eagle, Esq. of Trinity col. is admitted B. in Civ. Law; and Mr. J. Tweed, of Caius, B. of Arts.

April 12. Rev. J. Geldart of Trinity col.; Rev. C. George, of St. John's; and Rev. J. Ward, of Peterhouse, admitted M.A.

Mr. T. Carpendale, of St. John's; Mr. T. Halford, of Jesus; and Mr. M. Holworthy, of Caius col. admitted B.A.

—19. The prize proposed by the Norrisian Professor for the best dissertation on *The Christian Sabbath*, is this year adjudged to Wm. Bolland, M.A. Fellow of Trinity col.

Mr. W. Leeson, B.A. of Clare hall, has been elected Fel. of that society.

Edinburgh.—At the University there are at this time two thousand students attending the classes from the age of twelve to sixteen years.

STATE OF TRADE.

Lloyd's Coffee House, 20th April, 1809.

To appease the clamours of all ranks of people in the United States, the American government has affected to repeal the embargo only as to *neutrals*, and to continue it with respect to *belligerents*. Admirable finesse!—Let us ask the American rulers, "what powers are neutral?"—Not one with which America can carry on a naval intercourse.—This, our transatlantic politicians well know; and have, therefore, had recourse to a truly flimsy species of policy. For instance, they affect to consider Holland as a neutral, and independent state! Holland, which is under the government of our well beloved brother Louis! Holland, which is in effect a subservient province of the French empire, and nothing more!—Holland, which regards the nod of the Gallic despot in the light of a law! Holland, is a *neutral*, and *independent* state!—America, however, chooses for her own views to characterise her as independent; and she chooses to expect that her ships shall trade to France and England, just as if no embargo and no non-intercourse act existed. We are inclined to think that our government will not be the dupe of this miserable artifice: we trust, that our Orders in Council will not experience the slightest relaxation, till America comes to her right senses, and is taught to respect the nation from whose manufactures she in a great measure derives a subsistence. American ships must submit to the provisions of our orders before they can proceed to Holland. They must visit our ports, or submit to our search.—The capture of the island of Martinique will not benefit the sale of coffee, which is at present rather dull. The Martinique coffee is by far the best of any grown in the West Indies; and it is well known that there are nearly three crops of this article, at present, stored in that island. The dealers are in expectation of large arrivals of these crops; and there is little probability of their being disappointed.—Martinique furnishes very excellent *clayed* sugars, which will meet a ready sale in the English market, notwithstanding its being glutted with the raw commodity of Jamaica and other islands. The sugar bakers will, of course, be the buyers, from motives of economy, as there is a considerable saving in purchasing sugars *clayed* in the islands, instead of having the operation to perform at home. Martinique, we believe, annually clays a larger quantity of sugar than any of the English islands; and some have gone so far as to say, that in some years this island clays even more than all our West India settlements put together.—Since the news of the taking of Oporto has reached us, some of the wine trade have been extremely busy in sounding the alarm, and threatening a very sudden and important rise

upon Port. This is certainly a *false alarm*, as the cellars of the London Dock company, and several of the King's locks in the neighbourhood of the Custom House, will testify. The fact is, that we have a sufficiency of Port wine *in bond* to supply the demands of the consumers for at least two years to come.—By the Dutch decree, which is to take place from the 1st instant, the following articles are allowed to be exported from the chief ports of Holland, in neutral, or Dutch, ships, to a neutral port:—viz. earthen-ware, Russian and Berlin blue, flower-roots, books, beans, butter, brandy, tiles, blue and white pease, oats, gauze, thread and thread tape, gin, hoops, watch-movements, wooden-ware, dried hides, cheese, cambricks, copper-ware, leather, linen, white-lead, glue, madder, mill stones, oils of seeds, paper, perfumery, clocks, pins, young trees, pipes, saccharum saturni, ground oaks, bark, playing cards, turh, starch, clinkers, tobacco, ground tar-ras, linseed, fruit, wine, clover and garden seeds, iron-mongery and silk mercery.—And the following articles are allowed to be imported into Holland, in neutral or Dutch ships, from neutral ports: viz. grain, hare-skins, hemp and hemp-seed, ship-timber, Russian-hides, rape-seed, copper, quicksilver, linseed, mats, pitch, tar, pot-ashes, stock-fish, tobacco, tallow, train-oil, isinglass, wax, barilla, wine, iron, lead, candles, leather, and hides in the rough.—The South American markets are literally glutted with English goods, especially those of the coarser kinds; we understand, however, that articles of the finer sort sell well.—Advices from Madeira, bearing date 23d February, convey a very displeasing account relative to the outward-bound Jamaica fleet, which sailed from Cork on the 22d of January, consisting of 123 sail under convoy. It is stated, that, shortly after they sailed from Madeira, the fleet was dispersed in violent gales, and only four ships returned to the island. About 45 afterwards put back; but upwards of 70 remain unaccounted for.

The cotton market is pretty brisk; and the sales of South American and West Indian produce have not been depressed by the late intelligence from the United States.

British Navy.—At sea, 95 ships of the line, 10 from 50 to 44 guns, 135 frigates, 114 sloops, and 256 brigs. Total 610.—In port and fitting, 24 of the line, 5 from 50 to 44 guns, 26 frigates, 57 sloops, and 49 brigs. Total 161.—Guard ships, hospital ships, &c. 41 of the line, 7 from 50 to 44 guns, 14 frigates, 6 sloops, and 2 brigs. Total 70.—In ordinary and repairing, 54 of the line, 13 from 50 to 44 guns, 57 frigates, 46 sloops, and 30 brigs. Total 200.—Building, 50 of the line, 20 frigates, 20 sloops, and 10 brigs. Total 100.—Grand total 1141.

Bankrupts and Certificates, between March 21 and April 8, 1809, with the Attornies, extracted correctly from the London Gazette.

BANKRUPTCIES SUPERSEDED.

Gilbert, W. Portsea, cabinet-maker.
Longmire, M. Penrith, Cumberland, miller.
Young, A. Stamford, Lincolnshire, common-brewer.

BANKRUPTS.

MARCH 18.—**Draper, T.** City Road, Shoreditch, surgeon.
Wilson, D. Dronoh Street, Bishopgate, surgeon.
Mounssin, J. Fleet Street, linen-draper. *Att.* Foss, Essex
Street, Strand.
Wake, W. Spital Square, silkweaver. *Att.* Berry, Buck-
lersbury.
Whitmarsh, D. Brokenhurst, Hants, shopkeeper. *Att.*
Readson and Co. Corbet Court, Gracechurch Street,
Wild, D. Newtown, Montgomeryshire, hannel manufac-
turer. *Att.* Buggs, Haddington Green.
Williams, J. (London) under the firm of Williams and
Wetterstedt, of Wapping and of Weybridge, soap-boilers
Att. Adams, Old Jewry.

91.—Blakey, G. sen. Stepney, ship-owner. *All.* Leigh and Mason, New Bridge Street.
Brothers, J. P. Aldermanbury, jeweller. *All.* Frowd and Blanford, Temple.
Forster, J. South. *All.* Hanrott and Metcalfe, Finsbury, Inn New Square.
Holland, H. Dawlish, Devon, brick-maker. *All.* Williams, Red Lion Square.
Nevett, J. Broseley, dealer. *All.* Pritchard, Broseley, Shropshire.
Pailcox, J. Brightonstone, carpenter. *All.* Tourle and Palmer, Doughty Street.
Frigg, W. Ipswich, victualler. *All.* Bromley and Bell, Holborn Court, Gray's Inn.
Kayner, J. N. Ely, linen-draper. *All.* Boardillon and Hewitt, Little Friday Street, Chapside.

25.—Croton, J. Drury Lane, linen-draper. *All.* Tagg, Spread Eagle, Court, Threadneedle Street.
Davies, T. Birmingham, dealer. *All.* Egerton, Gray's Inn Square.
Egler, G. Portsea, miller. *All.* Shelton, Sessions House, Old Bailey.
Munt, T. York, money scrivener. *All.* Morton, Fumival's Inn.
New, W. Back Street, Horsleydown, victualler. *All.* Hodgson, Clement's Inn.
Norris, S. Sheffield, razor-smith. *All.* Sykes and Knowles, New Inn.
Slade, T. M. Old Bond Street, picture-dealer. *All.* Walls, East Street, Red Lion Square.
Williams, W. Pentonville, factor. *All.* Wilde, Warwick Square, Newgate Street.
Wright, J. W. Strand, Lane, money-scrivener. *All.* Parmer and Son, Long Street, Fenchurch Street.

27.—Austin, T. Chester, innkeeper. *At.* Huxley
Temple.
Clapson, J. Henrietta Street, Hackney Road, carpenter.
At. Walsborough, Warrford Court, Throgmorton
Street.
Davies, T. Haverford West, mercer. *At.* James, Gray's
Inn Square.
Deane, E. Liverpool, merchant. *At.* Windle, John
Street, Bedford Row.
Hall, O. Stafford, banker. *At.* Collis and Kent, Stafford.
Hendy, J. S. Queenhithe, insurance-broker. *At.* Allan,
Frederick's Place, Old Jewry.
Maud, J. H. Coventry, grocer. *At.* Panton, Hind Court,
Fleet Street.
Mead, F. L. and Lewis, E. Holles Street, Cavendish Square,
milliners. *At.* Mounsey, Charlotte Street, Bedford
Square.
Neve, A. Strand, milliner. *At.* Wright, Dowgate Hill.
Peat, T. Wood Street, Cheapside, hosier. *At.* Adams,
and Perry.
Thompson, T. Great Amwell, Herts, jobber. *At.* Har-
ling, Primrose Street, Bishopsgate.

APRIL 1.—Brown, J. and J. Newcastle-upon-Tyne, saddlers. *Att.* Flexney, Chancery Lane.
Colton, S. and W. Scawby, Lincolnshire, corn-merchants.
Att. Leigh and Mason, New Bridge Street, Blackfriars.
Guillod, T. Craven Street, Strand, wine-merchant. *Att.*
Dann and Crossland, Broad Street.
Hitchcock, J. otherwise James D. Sculcoates, Yorkshire.

white-lead merchant. *Messrs. Pearce and Son, St. Swithine Lane.*

Leach, J. Turnham Green, shopkeeper. *At.* Baunders
and Judkin, Clifford's Inn.

Newton, J. J. Gray's Inn Lane, Holborn, ironmonger.
Att. Freame, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields.

Norris, T. Gosport, corn-merchant. *Att.* Bleasdale,
Alexander, and Holmes, New Inn.

Patten, T. H. Drury Lane, victualler. *All.* Jeyes, Charlotte Street, Fitzroy Square.

Richardson, A. St. Dunstan's Hill, Tower Street, victual-
ler. *Alt.* Rippon, Bermondsey Street, Southwark.

4.—Cropton, E. Bishop Wearmouth, Durham, milliner.
4th. Wharton and Duke, Lamb's Buildings, Temple.

Deare, B. Liverpool, merchant. Att. Windle, John Street,
Bedford Row.

Feather, L. Nottingham, dealer. *Att.* Blakelock and
Makinson, Elm Court, Temple.

Holland, J. Cheapside, haberdasher. *Att.* Meddowcroft, Gray's Inn.

Jenkins, E. Twickenham, innkeeper, dealer. *Att.* Grif.
fith, Temple.

M'Leod, W. Upper Crown Street, Westminster, army agent. 4/4 Toulman, Aldermanbury.

Sherwood, M. Doncaster, jeweller. *Att.* Dixon and Allen, Paternoster Row.

Winnal, E. C. Claines, Worcester, miller, dealer. *All.*
Becke, Wardrobe Place, Doctors' Commons.

8.—Bailey, T. Edgbaston Street, Birmingham, victual-

ler. *Att.* Constable, Symond's Inn, Chancery Lane.
Bull, J. Grove Place, Deptford, victualler. *Att.* Drake,

Burwell, J. Union Street, North Shields, upholsterer. *Alt.*

Davenport, J. Manchester, baker. *Att.* Edmund's, Lin-

Horton, S. Birmingham, draper. *Att.* Parton, Hare Court,
Temple.

Law, D. jun. Manchester, common brewer. *All.* Milne
and Barry, Toronto.

Orrams, T. Stowmarket, Suffolk, ironmonger. *Att.*
Kinderley, Long and Isaac, Great Inn

Royle, J. Prestbury, Chester, tanner. *Att.* Ellis, Cursitor Street, Chancery Lane.

Rylance, J. Pilkington, Lancashire, cotton manufacturer.
44, Ellis Greniter Street, Chancery Lane.

Sunderland, J. Lower Basker, Yorkshire, corn dealer.
44, Spence and Hazell, Staple Inn.

Feather, L. Nottingham, dealer. Att. Blakelock and
Makinson, Elm Court, Temple.

Tubb, W. and Scott, J. H. A. King's Road, Pirbright, nur-

CERTIFICATES.

Albaster, J. Stafford, flour dealer.
Aston, J. Manchester, liquor-merchant.
Bissex, W. Sloper, K. jun. and Bissex, C. Bristol, vinegar makers.
Brown, J. Little East Cheap, cheesemonger.]
Bullen, R. Weymouth, butcher.
Buxton, T. and T. B. Leicester, bankers.
Carter, J. Bishopgate Street, merchant.
Craven, E. Clayton le Woods, Lancashire, cotton and muslin manufacturer.
Crawford, J. Charles Square, Hoxton, money-scrivener.
Davis, S. Upper St. Martin's Lane, broker.
Dean, W. Kenton Street, Russell Square, shopkeeper.
Dyke, S. Bartholomew Close, tea-dealer.
Earnshaw, E. Atherstone, Warwickshire, linen-draper.
Fly, W. and J. Cryodden, bricklayers.
Fraser, T. Wells Street, Mary-le-bone, coach-spring maker.
Glendon, W. Jernyn Street, St. James's, tailor.
Goff, E. Wellclose Square, coal merchant.
Graves, W. Leeds, Yorkshire, currier.
Harrison, J. Workington, Cumberland, sail-maker.
Hindle, J. Hindle, W. Kenyon, L. and Stanfields, A. Lancaster, calico-printers.
Hunt, E. Southampton, dealer.
James, J. Bristol, cooper.
Macaulay, J. Whytock, P. and Duncan, J. Liverpool, merchants.
Molloy, T. Tokenhouse Yard, mariner.
Pearson, T. South Shields, shipwright.
Sellers, G. Sheffield, cabinet maker.
Stenstone, R. and J. Bosworth, Leicester, draper.
Skevington, Z. Bucklersbury, carpenter.
Smith, J. and C. Bath, plane manufacturers.
Thomas, J. Manchester, cotton-spinner.
Waghorn, T. Rumford, Essex, draper.
Woolf, J. Liverpool, merchant.
Wright, T. Cowper's Row, Crutched Friars, broker.

Smithfield, per stone of 8lb. to sink the offal.

	Beef.	Mutton.	Veal.	Pork.	Lamb.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Mar. 25	5 6	5 10	7 0	7 0	0 0
Apr. 1	5 2	5 6	7 0	6 6	8 0
8	5 8	6 0	7 7	6 6	8 0
15	5 6	6 4	7 0	6 6	8 0

Newgate and Leadenhall, by the carcase.

Mar. 25	5 4	5 4	6 6	6 8	0 0
Apr. 1	5 4	5 4	6 4	6 8	0 0
8	5 8	5 8	7 0	7 0	8 4
15	5 6	5 8	6 8	7 0	8 0

St. James's.* Whitechapel.*

	Hay.	Straw.	Hay.	Straw.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Mar. 25	6 12 0	2 8 0	6 10	2 2 0
Apr. 1	6 12 0	2 8 0	6 10	2 0 0
8	6 10 0	2 5 0	6 8	2 0 0
15	6 10 0	2 8 0	6 6	1 18 0

Butts, 50 to 56lb. 23d.	Flat Ordinary	17
Dressing Hides 20	Calf Skins, 30 to 40lb.	
Crop Hides for cut. 22	per dozen	32
	Ditto, 50 to 70	39

Tallow,* London Average per stone of 8lbs.
 Soap, yellow, 107s.; mottled, 114s.; curd, 108.
 Candles, per dozen, 14s. 0d.; moulds, 15s. 0d.

Mar. 25	4,424	quarters.	Average	97s.	44d.
Apr. 1	3,805	—	—	91	9½
8	2,855	—	—	89	10½
15	3,462	—	—	88	8½

Mar. 25	9,702	sacks.	Average	84s.	7½d.
Apr. 1	10,312	—	—	84	3½
8	9,335	—	—	84	1½

	Peck Loaf.	Half Peck.	Quartern
	4s. 11d.	2s. 5½d.	1s. 2½d.
Mar. 25	4 11	2 5½	1 2½
Apr. 1	4 11	2 5½	1 2½
8	4 11	2 5½	1 2½
15	4 11	2 5½	1 2½

* The highest price of the market.

	COALS.	Sunderland.	Newcastle.
Mar. 25	43s.	to 49s.	45s. to 58s.
Apr. 1	43	48	43 60
8	43	44	42 67
15	41	49	40 66

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE.

Mar.	5 o'clock Morning.	Noon.	5 o'clock Night.	Height of Barom. in inches.	Dryness by Leslie's Hydrom.
21	40	48	44	30,11	15 Cloudy
22	44	58	44	20	52 Fair
23	44	59	51	29,88	64 Fair
24	47	56	48	62	55 Fair
25	44	49	42	30	54 Fair
26	44	53	40	17	35 Cloudy
27	37	55	43	32	52 Cloudy
28	43	49	42	50	0 Rain
29	42	45	40	76	30 Cloudy
30	37	44	41	79	34 Cloudy
31	43	45	39	72	30 Cloudy
Apr. 1	37	44	35	76	51 Cloudy
2	36	44	32	80	52 Snow
3	33	43	32	86	54 Snow
4	31	40	30	30,05	30 Snow
5	30	42	32	25	40 Snow
6	33	46	40	14	38 Cloudy
7	40	46	39	30	34 Cloudy
8	39	51	43	30	48 Fair
9	43	53	44	03	35 Cloudy
10	44	56	47	29,72	51 Cloudy
11	47	47	35	38	25 Showery
12	36	49	42	75	27 Fair
13	43	52	40	21	37 Showery
14	42	49	40	09	0 Hail
15	40	49	40	56	41 Cloudy
16	48	54	41	06	47 Showery
17	40	41	33	22	0 Rain
18	33	43	32	60	31 Sleet
19	32	45	38	72	51 Fair
20	33	44	33	66	36 Sleet

Prices Current, April 20th 1809.

American pot-ash per cwt.	£3 18 0	to 4 4 0
Ditto pearl.....	4 0 0	4 4 0
Barilla	3 2 0	3 10 0
Brandy, Coniac gal.	1 2 0	1 2 6
Camphire, refined.....lb.	0 7 2	0 7 6
Ditto unrefined.....cwt.	28 0 0	31 0 0
Cochineal, garbled ..lb.	1 8 6	1 15 0
Ditto East-India.....	0 4 0	0 5 3
Coffee, fine	6 0 6	6 12 0
Ditto ordinary	3 17 0	4 4 0
Cotton Wool, Surinam, lb.	0 2 2	0 2 2
Ditto Jamaica	0 1 4	0 1 5
Ditto Smyrna ...	0 1 4	0 1 5
Ditto East-India	0 1 0	0 1 6
Currants, Zant cwt.	3 18 0	4 0 0
Elephants' Teeth	20 0 0	32 0 0
Scrivelloes	14 0 0	20 0 0
Flax, Riga.....ton	130 0 0	135 0 0
Ditto Petersburg	136 0 0	138 0 0
Galls, Turkey cwt.	6 17 6	7 0 0
Geneva, Hollands. . gal.	1 1 6	1 2 0
Ditto English	0 13 0	0 13 6
Gum Arabic, Turkey,cwt.	2 10 0	4 10 0
Hemp, Riga.....ton	118 0 0	120 0 0
Ditto Petersburg	118 0 0	120 0 0
Hops	5 10 0	5 10 0
Indigo, Caracca lb.	0 5 3	0 10 9
Ditto East-India	0 3 3	0 10 6
Iron, British, bars, ton	18 0 0	0 0 0
Ditto Swedish	30 0 0	31 0 0
Ditto Norway	24 10 0	27 10 0
Lead in pigs.....fod.	43 0 0	0 0 0
Ditto red.....ton	44 0 0	0 0 0
Leadwhite	50 0 0	0 0 0
Logwood chips — ton	15 0 0	17 0 0
Madder, Dutch crop—cwt.	5 10 0	6 10 0
Mahogany.....ft.	0 1 2	0 2 4
Oil, Lucca,—25 gal jar	30 0 0	35 0 0
Ditto spermaceti—ton	96 0 0	0 0 0
Ditto whale	none	
Ditto Florence, ½ chest	4 4 0	4 10 0
Pitch, Stockholm,—cwt.	0 14 0	0 15 0
Raisins, bloom —cwt.	4 0 0	7 0 0
Rice, Carolina.....	2 16 0	3 1 0
Rum, Jamaica —gal.	0 5 3	0 6 6
Ditto Leeward Islands	0 4 2	0 4 6
Saltpetre, East-India, cwt.	3 18 6	3 19 6
Silk, thrown, Italian—lb.	2 19 0	3 19 6
Silk, raw, Ditto —	1 7 6	2 7 0
Tallow, English —cwt.	4 13 0	0 0 0
Ditto Russia, white	4 10 0	4 12 0
Ditto —, yellow	4 15 0	4 16 0
Tar, Stockholm —bar	2 15 0	0 0 0
Tin in blocks —cwt.	6 2 0	0 0 0
Tobacco, Maryl. —lb.	0 0 10	0 1 6
Ditto Virginia —	0 1 6	0 2 3
Wax, Guinea —cwt.	10 15 0	13 10 0
Whale-fins —ton.	38 0 0	39 0 0
Wine, Red port —pipe	90 0 0	100 0 0
Ditto Lisbon —	87 0 0	90 0 0
Ditto Madeira —	80 0 0	120 0 0
Ditto Vidonia —	75 0 0	78 0 0
Ditto Calcavella —	90 0 0	0 0 0
Ditto Sherry —butt	92 0 0	100 0 0
Ditto Mountain —	75 0 0	80 0 0
Ditto Claret —hogs.	70 0 0	95 0 0

Daily Prices of STOCKS, from 20th MARCH, to 20th APRIL, 1809.
N.B. In the 3 per ct. consols the highest and lowest price of each day is given; in the other stocks the highest only. **VAN SOMMER and SONS,**
 36, Clements Lane.

COURSE OF EXCHANGE.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																							
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Bank.		3 p. Cent.		3 p. Cent.		3 p. Cent.		Consols.		4 p. Cent.		Navy		Long		Omnium.		Imperial		Ditto		India		Bonds.		South Sea		Old		New Ditto.		3-4 d.		Exchq. B.		s. d.		p.		Consols.		Irish		3 p. Cent.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
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The Average Prices of Navigable Canal Shares, Dock Stock, &c. in April, 1809, at the Office of Mr. Scott, 28, New Bridge Street, Blackfriars, London.
 The Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal, £700, dividing £40 nett per annum.—Grand Junction, £151 to 155.—River Trent, £65 dividing £7 per cent.—Monmouthshire, £106 to 105—Ellesmere, £70.—Kennet and Avon, £23 to 25.—Wilts and Berks, £27.—Ashby, £19.—Thames and Medway, £77, with new subscription.—West India Dock Stock, £178 to 174.—London Dock, £120.—Commercial Road £115 per cent.—West Middlesex Water Works, £9 9, to to £10 10 prem.—Covent Garden Theatre New Shares, £31. 10 prem.—Globe, £117. 10.—Albion Assurance Shares, £1. 10 per cent. prem.—Rock Assurance, 4s. to 2s. 6d. prem.—London Flour Company, £6. 10 per share.

COURSE OF EXCHANGE.

Amsterdam, 2 us. 33-0—Ditto at sight, 32-5—Rotterdam, 10-4—Hamburgh, 31-0—Altona, 31-1—Paris, 1 day's date 20-19—Ditto, 2 us. 21-3—Madrid, in paper —Ditto, eff. 44—Cadiz, in paper —Cadiz, eff. 39—Bilboa, 41—Palermo, per oz. 92—Leghorn, 57—Genoa, 50—Venice, eff. 52—Naples, 42—Lisbon, 63—Oporto, 64—Dublin, per cent. 84—Cork, do. 94—Agio B. of Holland, 54 per cent.

		Premiums of Insurance, April 20th, 1809.
At 14 gs. To Yarmouth, Hull, Newcastle, Liverpool, Chester, &c.	From Poole, &c. to Newfoundl., to U. S. of America,	American ships.
At 2 gs. Ports of Scotland, Wewmouth, Dartmouth, Plymouth.	At 5 gs. To Madeira to U. S. of America.	
At 3 gs. Dublin, Cork, Derry, Limerick, Bristol, Chester, &c.—From Liverpool, Bristol, &c. to Dublin, Cork, or Waterford.—Bengal, Madras, or China.	At 6 gs. Gibraltar, Madeira, return £3.	
At 4 gs. St. Helena, or Cape of Good Hope, Dublin, Cork, &c. to London, (Comp.)	At 8 gs. Newfoundl., Labrador, &c.—Jamaica, or Leeward Island.—Brazil, So. America, return £4.	
	At 10 gs. Senegambia—U. S. of America,	
	At 20 gs. Musquito shore, Honduras, &c. return £6.—To East Indies, out and home.—East Indies to London.—Windward and Leeward Islands to U. S. of America, Quebec, Montreal, &c.	
	At 25 gs. Southern Whale-fishery.	
	At 25 gs. Newfoundl., Jamaica, and Leeward Islands.	

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At 25 *gs.* Newfoundland, Jamaica, and Leeward Islands.

At 10 *gs.* Senegambia—U. S. of America,

At 4 *gs.* St. Helena, or Cape of Good Hope, Dublin, Cork, &c. to London, (*Comp.*)

Mr.

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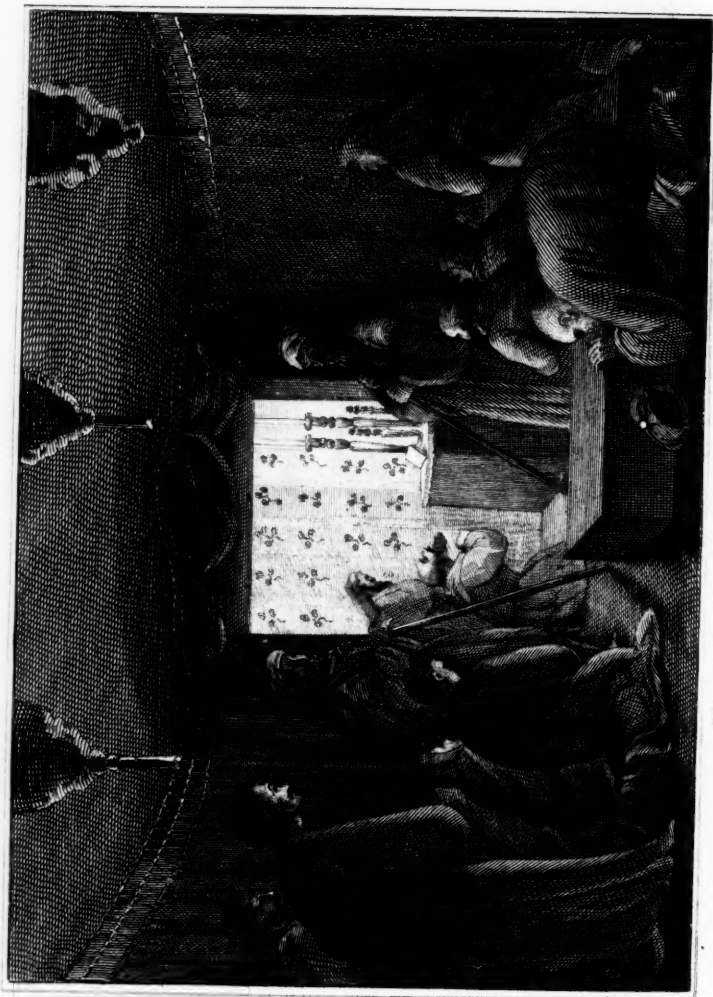
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HOLY SEPULCHRE, at JERUSALEM.